

# The SAGE

The Newsletter of SAGE of South Florida

August 2021

## *A Precarious Rebound*

We may, or may not, be on the cusp of slowly returning to the way we were as we witness the COVID virus mutating and infection rates fluctuating. The Pride Center has now reopened, but on a limited basis. SAGE intends to resume in-person meetings at the Center in the near future, but present capacity and other restrictions prevent us from specifying exactly when this will happen. However, SAGE on the Border (SOBA), now in its twelfth year, has been holding weekly “hybrid” meetings since February. Thanks to the efforts and technical skills of **Paul McNamara**, **Gene Majka**, and **Frank Piasecki**, participants attending the meeting in-person at the Volen Center can interact in real-time with participants attending online through Zoom. With the SOBA success story in mind, the “hybrid” meeting format may be used for other SAGE discussion groups when in-person meetings return.

After a 16-month hiatus, SAGE Night Out, under the new leadership of **Ed Slough**, held a dinner at *Tropics Grille* on Monday, July 26<sup>th</sup>. This monthly event (formerly *Men’s Night Out*) held on the fourth Monday of the month, now welcomes SAGE women to attend. The next dinner will be on Monday, August, 23<sup>rd</sup>. Consult the article in this Newsletter for more information.

COVID restrictions forced the cancelation of last year’s SAGE anniversary dinner. Now, this year, we’re all eager to party! Come join us when we celebrate **SAGE of South Florida’s 27<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on Sunday, September 26<sup>th</sup> at the sophisticated Café Vico**. Social Committee chairperson **Sal Orlando** has been busy planning the anniversary celebration and other events scheduled for the remainder of the year. For more information, please read Sal’s ***Social Lites*** article in this Newsletter.

During the long siege of COVID, SAGE has initiated two programs to reach out and serve our community at large: the *Leaders of Tomorrow Scholarship* and the *SAGE Emergency Fund*, discussed below. Please spread the word to help us find people who would benefit from either one of these programs. Show that SAGE cares!

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### **LEADERS OF TOMORROW – SAGE OF SOUTH FLORIDA, INC., CARL M. GALLI SCHOLARSHIP**

*Applications are still being accepted for the 2021 Leaders of Tomorrow scholarship. Two \$1,500 scholarships will be awarded. Further information and the application form can be found on the SAGE website ([www.sagewebsite.org](http://www.sagewebsite.org)).*

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### **SAGE EMERGENCY FUND**

*The SAGE Emergency Fund provides financial assistance to LGBT elders in the South Florida tri-county area who have experienced an unexpected financial hardship. Grants of up to \$1,000 are available. Contact **Lisa Peters at the SunServe Senior Services Department [954.764.5150 ext. 103]** for eligibility requirements and further information.*

## 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
BRUCE	GELLY	Aug-03	ANN	SMITH	Aug-11
PAT	NOON	Aug-03	HARVEY	RAPPAPORT	Aug-12
RICHARD	MAGGIORE	Aug-04	HOWARD	TERRY	Aug-12
CHARLES	SCARCELLA	Aug-04	ANN	GOWEN	Aug-17
HARVEY	CHASSER	Aug-06	WILLIAM	WHITENER	Aug-17
PEGGY	WATSON	Aug-06	DAVID	SHAPIRO	Aug-19
MICHAEL	THAU	Aug-07	JOEL	RUBIN	Aug-20
REX	COSTON	Aug-09	JOYCE	EDELSON	Aug-23
TED	FISHER	Aug-09	JOEL A	RISCH	Aug-23
STEVE	THAYER	Aug-09	MICHAEL	GAGNE	Aug-24
SHARON	KNOWLES	Aug-10	KAY	TOWNS	Aug-25
TRISH	STYPKA	Aug-10	ROBERT	RIEDEL	Aug-26
PAT	DECOURSEY	Aug-11	RAFAEL	SUAREZ	Aug-29

### 5 Year Anniversaries

DEB MCNERNEY, EDWARD SLOUGH, MARY VASILIADES

### New Members

JORGE HERRERA, ED MACDONALD, MARGARET ZUPSICH

*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

Jefy Gaines  
Lee Lawson  
Marilyn Lamkay  
Kathy Macchio  
Paul McNamara  
Sal Orlando  
Lisa Peters

### VOLUNTEERS

Jean Arthurton  
Hank Brooks  
Frank Cavanaugh  
Philip Collier  
Marc Flanagan  
Michael Gagne  
Jean Johnson  
Gene Majka  
Sonny Miller  
Ken Moore  
Frank Piasecki  
Norma Wingo  
Ron Wudarsky

### 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 – 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](mailto:sagesofl@gmail.com)  
Attn: Editor

**Website:** [www.sagewebsite.org](http://www.sagewebsite.org)  
**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/SageOfSouthFloridaInc](http://www.facebook.com/SageOfSouthFloridaInc)

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Celebrating over 27 years of service to our community

SAGE Message Line - 954.634.7219 - [www.sagewebsite.org](http://www.sagewebsite.org)

## 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 August. SAGE members will be notified when **SAGE Women's Lunch; SAGE Lunch & Learn; See You at the Movies** and **SAGE/Prime Gentlemen Movie** resume. Until then, Be Safe and Stay Healthy!



#### THE ROUND TABLE

Paul McNamara

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. **PLEASE NOTE: THE ROUND TABLE WILL BE ON HIATUS FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST. CONSULT NEXT MONTH'S NEWLETTER FOR THE TOPICS SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 2021.** Please email Ed Slough at [WILDHYBRID@aol.com](mailto: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 ON THE BORDER/ ALTERNATIVES (SOBA)

Frank Piasecki & Jean Arthurton



This Co-Ed discussion group meets every Monday at 11:00am at the Volen Center, 1515 W. Palmetto Park Road, Boca Raton, subject to COVID safety precautions and requirements. Those unable to attend in person can participate remotely via 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. **If you would like to be invited to the SAGE SOBA Zoom meeting, send your request to: [virtual\\_soba\\_group@aol.com](mailto:virtual_soba_group@aol.com).** Everyone is welcome.

#### SAGE BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP



In a world of several billion people, it is still possible to know things that not another soul on earth knows. Because secrets can weigh heavily on the spirit, people sometimes vent them disguised in the form of casual conversation with total or relative strangers who have no way of knowing their significance. Unfortunately, not all secrets are harmless and the passing of a secret from one person to another even under such a circumstance can sometimes, like the spreading of a virus, endanger both. This proves to be the case in – **The Secret Keeper** – number 13 in the Dick Hardesty mystery novel series written by **Dorien Grey/Roger Margason**. Set in the not-too-distant past in an unnamed city, private investigator Hardesty and his partner Jonathon are hired to investigate the apparent suicide of a 90-year-old man who had been employing Jonathon to help with his garden. Jonathon and the man's grandson are adamant, however, that it was not a suicide. When P.I. Hardesty learns that the dead man's lawyer had also died mysteriously barely a week before, he suddenly finds himself immersed in a world of greed and familial dysfunction, searching for a missing new will, and dealing with the fact that Jonathan himself has become a target because someone believes that the old man had entrusted him with a secret before his death the meaning of which Jonathon does not realize. The SAGE Book Club will be discussing this quick and enjoyable read via **Zoom on August 14, from 11am to 12 noon.**

#### SAGE CO-ED DROP-IN

Michael Gagne & Kathy Macchio



Ladies of SAGE, may we have your ATTENTION PLEASE! Come to the Co-Ed Drop-In. Kathy and Michael are your hosts, every **Thursday at 3:00pm**. **Join the fun on Zoom!** It's all user-generated content – Participants bring topics, stories, and concerns to share or discuss. Check us out. Schmooze, kibitz, see some of your old friends and make some new ones. Check your emails from SAGE for the weekly announcement and link to the meeting. All (including men) are welcome!





## ***SAGE at Empire Stage Theatre***



## ***SOBA Hybrid Meeting***



## SOCIAL LITES

Sal Orlando

The “Dog Days” of August are upon us. As I always say, “Thank God for air conditioning”. I trust you are all enjoying the Summer and are getting ready to welcome Fall soon. With luck, there will be no hurricanes to deal with this year.

Starting this fall, it's full speed ahead getting back to business with our monthly events.

### Save the Dates:

**Sunday, September 26th, 2021;** SAGE celebrates its **27th Anniversary** at the popular **Cafe Vico**, a terrific venue. Come and enjoy the festivities with fabulous cocktails and hors d'oeuvres at their gorgeous modern bar featuring happy hour prices at 6pm, followed by a scrumptious dinner.

**Thursday, October 21, 2021;** join SAGE for an **Oktoberfest Dinner** at **The Ambry**.

**Sunday, November 21, 2021;** by popular demand, **SAGE** returns to **Zuckerello's** for a pre-Thanksgiving Day Dinner.

**Sunday, December 19, 2021;** our yearly **Holiday Gala** at the luxurious **Embassy Suites Hotel**.

**Reminder** – there is still time to book your **SAGE December 4-9, 2021 Cruise**.

For more information contact me at **954 649-2036** or email **sorlan8@aol.com**.

As always, for ongoing activities both in person and via Zoom, consult your SAGE Calendar for meeting times and places.

**Ciao for Now!**



## SAGE NIGHT OUT

Ed Slough

Join us on Monday, **August 23rd at Tropics Grille**, 2000 North Wilton Drive, Wilton Manors, for our popular SAGE Night Out informal dinner. Cocktail hour will be from 5:30PM to 6:30PM, and dinner will be at 6:30PM. Monday is Tropics 2-for-1 night, featuring two dinners for the price of one. Both dinners must be on the same check, but you can give the server two credit cards and split the check down the middle. You don't need to attend with a partner, as singles can pair off at the dinner. The occasional odd one out is usually accommodated by Tropics. This is an event for friends to gather together and celebrate the ability to socialize in person once again. It should be a good time for all. Please email me to let me know if you plan to attend so I can give Tropics a heads-up. My email is: [wildhybrid@aol.com](mailto:wildhybrid@aol.com). Thanks!



## NOTES FROM THE MEN'S DROP-IN

Carl Barton & Jefy Gaines

SAGE Men's Drop-In meets every **Wednesday at 1:00pm to 2:00pm**,

via Zoom. Doors open at 12:45pm for a little extra “schmoozing”. **Captain Carl** and I, **Jefy**, are your hosts. Captain Carl is presently on the mend for some orthopedic problems, so give him a call to wish him well. Ah, it's mid-Summer, my favorite time of year. So, drop in on your “Drop-In” and let's have some fun! We are abiding by The Pride Center COVID precautions and slowly moving towards in-person plus Zoom “hybrid” meetings. For now, click the link we send out and join us. Find out what's going on with your friends and make some new ones. After announcements everyone has the opportunity to share and, if time permits, we have open discussions. My favorite part is at the end when we have volunteers tell a couple of jokes. Sometimes we have a good laugh and sometimes a good groan, all in fun. Join us!



## IN MEMORIAM

SAGE of South Florida mourns the loss of **Dominic Bisignano**, who passed away on June 28, 2021. Dominic was born in Brooklyn in 1930. He received a PhD in English Literature from NYU in 1959 and, subsequently, a Fulbright Scholarship which allowed him to study in Italy for three years. He was a professor of Victorian Literature for over 25 years at Indiana University before retiring in 1994 and moving to Florida. Dominic was a longtime member of both SAGE and Prime Gentlemen and for many years he was associated with the Opera and Ballet group which met at The Pride Center. He was an active supporter of the Stonewall Library, the AIDS Museum, The Poverello Center, and many other community organizations. During the past year, Dominic was an eager participant at online Zoom meetings of the SAGE Book Discussion Group, The Round Table, Men's Drop-In, Co-Ed Drop-In, and SOBA. He was always willing to share stories about his life and experiences living in Italy. He delighted everyone with his vast knowledge (and opinions) of classical music, ballet, opera, and literature. Dominic is survived by his brother, Anthony, Anthony's son and daughter, and his many friends and acquaintances.

We will truly miss him.







## SAGE Health Tips

Gene Majka, APRN

Welcome. If you have a topic, comment or questions, please send an email to [sagesofi@gmail.com](mailto:sagesofi@gmail.com).

### The E/R or not the E/R --- THAT is the question

A nurse's emergency room stories are always revealing about the public. "It was 3am and I'd been on duty in the Emergency Room since 8am. I was exhausted. A well-dressed man came in with his 8-year-old, healthy-looking, son. I asked him what was the problem. He said, "Well, I was at a wedding and it occurred to me that my son is a little short. Can you give him something right now to make him taller?" Let's face it this is not an emergency, but when should you go to the emergency room, urgent care, walk-in clinic or your doctor's office?

#### When to go?

Symptoms that are best evaluated in an emergency room include:

*Chest pain or difficulty breathing*

*Fainting/change in mental state*

*Head or eye injury*

*Pneumonia*

*Fever with a rash*

*Severe cuts that may require stitches*

*Severe cold or flu symptoms*

*Progressive confusion or slurred speech*

*Broken bones (especially protruding from the skin) and dislocated joints*

*Serious burns*

*Weakness/numbness on one side*

*Concussion/confusion*

*Uncontrolled bleeding*

*Seizures*

*Facial lacerations*

*Vaginal bleeding with pregnancy*

*Mental health or emotional health emergency*

#### The Urgent Care Center

This type of care is designed to handle less serious illnesses and medical situations. If you cannot get to see your practitioner for a same-day appointment you can consider an urgent care center. These are conditions that are not life-threatening but should be treated within 24 hours.

#### Types of conditions treated in Urgent Care clinics

*Back or muscle pain*

*Cuts and minor burns*

*Earache*

*Sinus infections*

*Vomiting*

*Small cuts that may require stitches*

*Fever without a rash*

*Moderate flu-like symptoms*

*Skin conditions*

*Upper respiratory infection*

*Urinary tract infections*

*Allergies especially worse during certain seasons*

*Bronchitis*

*Diarrhea*

*Sprains or joint pain*

*Dehydration*

#### Walk-in CLINICS as at Walgreens, CVS, Wal Mart, etc.

*Painful urination*

*Mild flu-like symptoms*

*Sore throat*

*Eye redness, discharge or itchiness*

*Vaccinations*

*Rashes without fever*

*Cough and congestion symptoms*

*Ear pain*

*Sports physical*

If you have to use any of these facilities make sure you bring a list or the actual bottles of all your medications (prescribed, over the counter, and herbs). Also, a list of medication allergies, previous surgeries and information from other practitioners. An easy way to keep all this information readily available is on your smartphone. Check your health insurance carriers for coverage for these facilities. Many times, it may cost you less.

#### References and Resources:

Should You Go to the Emergency Room or Urgent Care?

[https://www.scripps.org/news\\_items/4231-should-you-go-to-the-emergency-room-or-urgent-care](https://www.scripps.org/news_items/4231-should-you-go-to-the-emergency-room-or-urgent-care)

Emergency Department (ER), Urgent Care or Express Care: Which Do You Need?

<https://my.clevelandclinic.org/health/articles/15940-emergency-room-urgent-care-or-express-care-which-do-you-need>

Emergency vs. Urgent Care: What's the difference? <https://www.mayoclinichealthsystem.org/hometown-health/speaking-of-health/emergency-vs-urgent-care-whats-the-difference>

**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 Richard Calvin, R.N.

### BEREAVEMENT GROUP

After the funeral, grieving gets intense and lonely. Free LGBT Bereavement Group helps to manage the waves and tsunamis of grief.

For days, time, and location contact:

**Rev. Anne Atwell** — 954.462.2004x208

[Anne@sunshinecathedral.net](mailto:Anne@sunshinecathedral.net)



## SAGE Celebrates It's 27<sup>th</sup> Year at Café Vico

1125 North Federal Highway Ft. Lauderdale 33304 (954-565-9681)

**Sunday September 26, 2021 at 6:00pm**

Enjoy Cocktails, Conversation and Hors d'oeuvres at their gorgeous modern bar at Happy Hour Prices, Followed by Dinner at 7pm



### MENU

#### First Course (Choice of One)

Homemade Meatballs in Marinara Sauce, Caesar salad or Minestrone soup

#### ENTRÉE (Choice of One)

- 1) Lasagna alla Bolognese
- 2) Penne Pasta with Vodka Cream Sauce
- 3) Chicken Marsala in a wine sauce with mushrooms
- 4) Filet of Flounder Francese- sauteed in lemon butter sauce

#### DESSERT (Choice of One)

Cannoli, Fruit cup

Coffee, Tea or Iced Tea included with your meal (At Table Only)

**PRICING: \$25 @ Members & \$35 @ Non-members**

(Member Pricing partially subsidized by SAGE)

**Reservations Close 1pm Wednesday, September 22, 2021**

**SAGE 27<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner at Café Vico, Ft. Lauderdale - No Refunds**

\_\_\_\_\_ Members @ \$25 & \_\_\_\_\_ Non-Members @ \$35 - Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Entrée \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Entrée \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Entrée \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Entrée \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail with Payment to SAGE at: P.O. BOX 70516, Oakland Park, FL 33307**

**Questions? Call the SAGE Message Line at (954) 634-7219 - A SAGE-Sponsored Activity**