

Old Patrician



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Summer in Palm Beach is Going to be Anything But the Off Season

Your Social Committee has met a number of times this spring and we have a full schedule of events planned. Summer time is usually the “off” season, but not this year.

We will officially end the season of 2007—2008 with a gala dinner at Maison Carlos on April 29, 2008. There will be over 20 of us in attendance and it is not too late to sign up and buy into this end of the season affair.

The SocComm will continue to run the ever popular barbeques every other Wednesday. We will alter the dates for Memorial Day, the 4th of July, and Labor Day.

On May 17th Donna Gustafson is planning a 1950s style sock hop. We will pool our CDs and iPod machines to provide the music. Pizza, beer, and wine will be the “consumables.” So drag out

the poodle dresses and the white bucks and prepare to rock the night away.

Fran Crowley works for the Florida Stage. If we were to act fast we could get a block of seats for their summer performance of *Dream a Little Dream*. However, there is not much financial benefit in rushing to sign up for and pay for a show that we will attend in August. We will pick a date, go through our customary signup procedure, and then we will buy tickets.

The Patrician “cruise director,” Walter Burke, is arranging for an evening voyage on the Palm Beach Princess. This will occur on an evening in July. The date will be finalized shortly, however we are thinking of Monday, July 14th. Because the Princess expects to make money from the attendees, the cost of this evening is very reasonable.

Sometime in June we will do both an inexpensive dinner and another upscale dinner. For the low cost affair, the committee is thinking of the Rum Shack in Lake Worth. We are giving some consideration to restaurants in Delray Beach for the more glamorous meal.

Since this is a learning process for your committee, any and all suggestions are appreciated. We are attempting to find the right mix and frequency of our events. Please let us know your thoughts.

Snowbirds take notice:

I will be publishing these issues all summer. You can get them by e.mail if you give me your e.mail address. You can send me same at my address: bob@s-i-inc.com

Phil Leff’s Annual Seder Was a Huge Success

For the third year in a row Phil Leff ran the Patrician Passover Seder at Benvenuto. This annual event attracted 32 Patrician residents and guests. All in attendance agreed that this one was the best ever.

Shirley Van opened and closed the affair with readings appropriate to the occasion. She began with a passage of welcome pointing out how the Passover meal was inclusive to Jews and non-

Jews alike. This was very fitting since we had a significant number of Christian seated around the table.

At the end of the service she read a brief excerpt from the *Diary of a Young Girl* by Anne Frank. This was a message of hope in a world that was devoid of any reason for hope. It reminded us to believe in the basic goodness of mankind in spite of evidence of evil in the world.

Phil had put together a Haggadah to be used at our Seder. It was a surprisingly modern rendition of the traditional text for Passover. The impact of the readings attempted to bring relevance of this most ancient of prayers to the world of today.

You might think that Benvenuto, a function hall in the Italian style, could not host a Jewish meal, but this was not the case. With the exception of one waiter, who inadvertently arrived with a platter of rolls, everything was done in the traditional manner.

And, least you thought that you would expire from lack of drink, they provided enough wine so that you could indeed have four full cups. Although Phil suggested that we need only take sips, no one felt short-changed in the least.

On a personal note, the pot roast was quite good, for a mass feeding. Pat had the prime rib and, given all of the other courses took quite a bit of the meal home with her in a “doggy” bag.

In addition to other Seders going on in the hall, Benvenuto was host to two weddings. They contrasted with our event as one had a Scottish theme and the other featured a Mexican Mariachi band! The timing could not have been better. While we were having our service, all was quiet. Just about the time dinner was served, the boys in the Mariachi band were just getting cranked up. I am willing to bet no one has ever heard of Herb Alpert doing a Seder.



Seder was a big hit!