Old Patrician

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Memorial Day Barbeque Kicks Off Summer in Palm Beach

The summer gets underway in style with a barbeque sponsored by your social committee. We will provide hamburgers hotdogs, their rolls, and a sheet cake for desert. As of the day before we have 63 attendees signed up and ready eat! This number really surprised your humble editor. It has been suggested that if we provide free food at board meetings we could increase attendance at those functions too!

This is just the beginning of what promises to be a "hot" South Florida social whirl. Our plans are starting to firm up for activities in June and July. There is now a signup sheet for the Florida Stage show. The date is Thursday, June 26, 2008. The cost is $40.00 and includes our normal SocComm profit that make things like the "free food" BBQ possible.

There will be two cut-off dates for this event. The first will be Thursday, June 12, 2008 and the second will be Monday, June 23, 2008. Everyone who has paid by the first cut-off date will get tickets. I cannot guarantee the second, but you will get your money back if I can't get you tickets.

The only June barbeque will be Wednesday, June 11th. This is to accommodate celebrating the Fourth of July on the 4th. And of course, July barbeques will be a tad off schedule with the first one being on that Friday and the second one on Wednesday, July 23rd. The reason for that shift is not to back up to our cruise on the PB Princess described below.

OK, are you ready to set sail? Walter has made arrangements to ship out on Monday, July 14th. Please note that there are no shows on Mondays. For those of us who are not tempted by Lady Luck it was a better day.

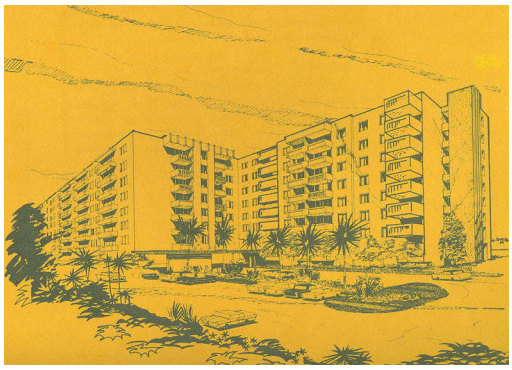
Just in the planning stages are a series of dinners. These will take place during July and August although dates and places have not been finalized.

The first type of collective meal will be what we are calling a "value dinner." We are thinking seriously about the Rum Shack for this event. What we want to do is to see if they will give us the coupon price of 2 for $15.00 so that with our SocComm up-charge it would be $9.00 per person including a drink! Can you even cook at home for that price?

The second type of dinner is our "upscale" meal just like the Maison Carlos event described below (even better). Some of the venues being considered are City Oyster, the Sundy House, and Callaro's. If you have any favorite upscale restaurant, or value joint, let us hear from you.

Dinner At Maison Carlos Previews Dinners Next Season

On Tuesday, April 29, 2008, 24 of us met at Maison Carlos for the first of what we believe will be a whole series of upscale dinner parties. Dinner lasted close to three hours and I did not hear of a soul who did not feel like they had anything but a great time. Sadly, Carlos had had an operation two weeks before and was also suffering from the flu bug. He did not make it, but his wife Lannie and chef Robert acted as our hosts for the evening.



Pre-construction drawing

While we enjoyed cocktails, fried veggie chips were provided. Soup, salad, and wonderful rolls came next along with the glass of free wine. The three entrées were about evenly split amongst the attendees. Key Lime pie was the overall winner for desert. The committee was pleased that we could get this dinner in before the snowbirds left. This event presages what is in store for all of you in the season to come.

Next fall we are going to have numerous welcome back coffee hours in the late afternoon in the fall. This will be capped off by a snowbird welcome party one evening the first week in December.

Of course we will continue to do our BBQ on Wednesday night. In addition, we will add to our dinners by throwing a gala meal in the card room with, perhaps, an out of house caterer or rely on our in house cooking staff. You know who you are!

The biggest event of the season will come late in January with the Semi Formal Dinner Dance. We will start work on that one in September so that there will be no "issues" in play.

There will be bus tours similar to the one Marti ran to the Hard Rock. We are going to try one overnight tour, so be thinking of a destination that would interest our members. I would guess that the West Coast or perhaps St. Augustine would be popular destinations. If you have ideas and would like to go on one of these outings, please let the committee know your wants and desires.

In March I would like to do a wine tasting in the card room. There are about 8 wines that I would like to be the focus of the event. If we charged about $20.00 we could do reasonably priced wines that you could drink every day. If we upped that to $30.00 we could deliver a few great wines.