Old Patrician

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Happy New Year & Welcome to the 3rd Year of this Newsletter

We are right in the middle of the season. I have chosen to publish the January edition just a few days early so as to remind all of us about the New Year's celebration that your SocComm has planned. As we begin the third year of the current committee, and this newsletter, we are planning ever more ambitious events.

To start the year off right we are doing New Year's right. The barbeque will run from 5:30 PM until 9:00 PM. If the weather looks good we will be on the pool deck. We will start our evening party at 10:00 PM. There are three requirements for this activity. Please sign up today if you have not already done so. Next, slip $5.00 per person under my door (#616). Finally, each group should bring a bottle of Freixenet Extra Dry Cordon Negro for every two or three drinkers in your group. I just checked Publix and they have plenty at $7.49 a bottle. Take my word for it, this wine is the best Champaign style wine you can get for under $40!

We will have nuts, pretzels, and soft drinks around the room all evening. At midnight, or just before, pizza will arrive for the delight of all. This may not be the Rainbow Room or the middle of Times Square, but it will be a party for all of us to remember. Once again, I call this Old Patrician because we are reviving the things that once gave us joy and a sense of belonging to a group of people. It is far more than just a common address.

The big New Year's Eve celebration will draw to a close with Carol's pot luck brunch. There are 62 of us signed up for this event as of today, Sunday the 27th. Don't miss out. This is a must see event.

January promises other events as well. While Pat and I are on vacation, Phil and Tommy will run the always popular Wine 'n Cheese on the beach. This will be the third time we have offered this enjoyable activity. It is the ultimate laid-back event. Everyone brings their favorite vino and one snack; it does not even have to be cheese. We set up a large table and the attendees bring beach chairs. There will be a tub full of ice to keep the white wine cold. Even if you don't like wine, there is no rule saying you can't bring strong spirits or even soft drinks. What better way is there to spend a Sunday afternoon than sharing wine with friends? So circle January 10, 2010 for this party.

We should say just a word about an event that sold out without even being mentioned here in this publication. We put a notice up for the musical review *Jersey Boys* and within three days all 20 of the tickets we asked for had sold. I was way too timid by only asking for twenty. The next time a theater event presents itself I will reserve twice that amount. I must confess I had no idea that this would be that popular. The Kravis Center still has a few scattered tickets for individual purchase for the night we are going, March 25, 2010.

Patrician visitor

The Dinner Dance Promises to be the Season Highlight

The SocComm has gone out on a limb for this year's dinner dance. Therefore, let me take the time to review our plans and explain why this year's dance will be the best one we have ever put on.

The difference this year is live music. As we have explained in the past two issues of *Old Patrician*, Martha Brown will provide both dinner music and dance music. If you have Internet access check out samples of her skill. Her site is www.LunarTunes.com.

Because we have committed to her we really need 40 of us to sign up. Therefore, once the New Year's events have passed there will be signup sheets posted on the Social Committee's bulletin board for the dance.

Some of you who are single and/or do not feel that they can dance have expressed to me that they do not think that there is anything they can get out of a dinner dance. Let me try to suggest otherwise. First, there will be plenty of people who will be dance partners for those who did not arrive with a partner. That goes double for those whose significant other does not wish to dance. Third, I have heard Martha Brown in a non dance setting and just to sit and listen to her performance is a joy in its own right. Finally, the dinner dance is one of those events described above that we do as a group. It is a night out with friends and one of the things that binds us together as a group. It is well worth it.

Don't forget. You can view all of the newsletters and the calendar on our website:

www.s-i-inc.com/Patrician

Last year's dance