



## Rah, Rah, Rah, **Pride!** is here.

### What is Pride?

*Hui Chark Fung*

I did not know of PRIDE. A few years back, I was introduced to a world that I had never known – a gay one. “Don’t ask, don’t tell” was the philosophy in my life. Just like a lot of gays, I tried, lied and pretended with all my effort to stay in the closet. I thought it was not anyone else’s business that I was gay.

Then, I was introduced to the first Pride Parade by a dear friend of mine, Jim Dorion. I didn’t know why he was so eager and enthusiastic about being at the Parade. I did not know Pride. Jim brought me down to the village that particular day in June. I was frozen at the sight of all those around at that Pride Day. Jim showed me what it was to be gay. It was liberating and fascinating. Everyone around us were all gay, like us. They were colourful, not only in the way they were dressed, but also their smiles. They were all shapes. They were all happy. They all held their heads up high. There was confidence in their eyes. There was exhilaration in the air. We were surrounded by a joy that I’d never felt before. Jim was like a kid in the candy store.

He pulled me into the crowd following the Parade. Before I knew it, I was shocked to discover that I was hanging on to the huge Rainbow Flag.. The flag was shining in my eyes, reflected on my face and my whole being. There was only joy. I looked around at everybody along the Parade route. I looked straight into all their eyes and then I said “I am Gay”.

What is Pride! A day to celebrate difference without prejudice. Naked, young , old, black, red, yellow or white: all there in celebration of who we were.

That is Pride! RAH RAH!

### Prime Timers Bursting with Fruit Flavour!

#### *Volunteer for Pride Day!*

Once again this Pride Day, Prime Timers Toronto is gonna show everyone that we are Proud Gay Men over 40! But we can’t do it without you!

We looking for many good fruits to represent Prime Timers on Pride Day. Wear your brightest fruit flavours and help us out. What can you do?

We need people to work the booth. We need people to march, sing and dance in the parade, or to drive in one of the vans graciously donated by Toronto Chrysler.

What are you waiting for? Grab your Fruit of the Looms, and help us cheer.

**June 21**  
**Come Kick off Pride Week.**  
**Sod Turning at the 519**  
**then**  
**Flag Raising at Nathan**  
**Philips Square**  
**then**  
**1 PM Lunch at Chinese**  
**Place, 150 Dundas St. W.**



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Executive Board Members, 2004-2005



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*Thanks to everyone who contributed to this month's Prime Times. We encourage you to send material that might be of interest to our members to [newsletter@primetimers.ca](mailto:newsletter@primetimers.ca) or at the address above.*

### **DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS: SECOND FRIDAY OF THE MONTH.**

*To get your copy of The Prime Times by e-mail, simply send an email to:*

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*Chris Hoover*

### **President Hoover's State of the Union**

Your President is a bit stiff and sore as he is writing this article. I attended the excellent Prime Timers bowling event last night and used a few muscles I had not used in a while. Come to think of it, it has probably been 30 years since I last bowled. I had a great time and may even take it up on a more permanent basis.

June is a busy month for our PT group. We are going to continue our Woody's event on the third Tuesday of each month. The first event was a real success. Our regular June Saturday meeting will be a special celebration as we gear up for Pride. Special food and entertainment are planned. For Pride, we will be participating in the parade and also have a booth on Sunday. If you are interested in getting involved with our Pride activities, there is still



time. Simply give myself or any of the executive a call.

One thing I have come to realize as I have gotten older is how important it is to exercise. A new PT activity being organized by Member Peter Marinelli will help us get more exercise. Starting Saturday July 10<sup>th</sup>, you can take part in a walking group; it will be very casual and take us on different routes each week.

The Program Committee is also planning a Saturday meeting this fall that will focus on exercise and nutrition.

On a personal note, I will be joining Prime Timers' Retirement Club at the end of June, so you will probably see me around a lot more. And if you are in my neighbourhood, my door is always open for a chat over coffee or tea.

Take care and enjoy Pride.



Presents

Norm Foster & Steve Thomas'  
**JASPER  
STATION**

Directed by Jordan Merkur  
Music Direction by Scott White  
Choreographed by Nicola Pantin  
Set Design by David Wootten  
Costumes by Sarah Armstrong  
Lighting by Karen Bayer

August 25, 2 PM

Join us  
Wednesday,  
August 25,  
for a trip to  
Jasper Station

*Norm Foster, author of *The Last Resort* and *The Foursome*, teams up with Steve Thomas to create this smash hit musical comedy about travelers whose lives are transformed while waiting for a train.*

*Jasper Station interweaves the stories of five memorable and unique characters who are all at crossroads in their lives. It explores how we sometimes reveal our hopes and dreams more fully to strangers than to whom we love the most. Both touching and hysterically funny, filled with great musical numbers and energetic choreography, Jasper Station will put a smile on your face and keep you humming long after the curtain falls.*

*"Filled with sidesplitting moments and toe-tapping musical numbers, it's a show not to be missed."*

*Sarnia Observer*

For only \$75, you get transportation to Jackson's Point, Lunch at The Lake Simcoe Arms and see the show at the Red Barn Theatre.

All Prime Timers and Guests are welcome. To reserve your spot, sign up at the meeting, or call André at (416) 560-9147 or email [theatre@primetimerstoronto.ca](mailto:theatre@primetimerstoronto.ca)

Lunch includes: Fresh Garden Salad tossed in a Lemon Vinaigrette. Choice of: English Style Roast Beef with gravy; or Charbroiled Lemon Herb Breast of Chicken with Fruit Chutney; or Poached Atlantic Salmon Filet with Lemon Dill Sauce. Steamed Parsley Potatoes, fresh Vegetables. Baguette & Butter Choice of: English Sherry Trifle, Fresh Fruit Salad or Lemon Meringue Pie.

Our Next Dining Out Event:  
**There is no dining out event in July**



**Monthly Bowling (5 pin)  
NEW LOCATION**

**When? Second Saturday of the Month  
Where? Danforth Bowl, 1554 Danforth Ave.**

(Beside the Dance Studio, north side of Danforth, 4 doors west of Coxwell. If taking the subway, get off at Coxwell.)

**For further information anyone can call Patrick or Al at 416-244-3077 or contact Ron Smith at 416-533-8454.**

There is a snack bar and sell beer,wine, shots and soft drinks.



*Ed Lamb*

**A Request for Support from Members of Primetimers!**

I am committed to participating in a three day 65 km hike at Mont Tremblant, Quebec, to raise money for two worthy causes: CPAVIH, the Quebec version of PWA, and the AIDS research centre at McGill University. I need to raise \$2000 to be eligible to walk with the 40 or so other participants, and I have made a personal commitment to match all contributions from family and friends up to \$2000. Please consider supporting me. Contact me by phone, 416 588 - 5969, e-mail at [edonthelam@hotmail.com](mailto:edonthelam@hotmail.com), or pick up pledge forms at both the June and July meetings. Tax receipts will be issued for all contributions of \$20 or more.

Thanks! I am very excited about this!



**July Meeting**

The programme committee promises an interesting July meeting. The meet and greet time is back to the usual 2pm time frame. Announcements until 2:30 — then Albert Boulos will share his expertise in legal, accounting and many experiences pertaining to buying and selling real estate in Toronto.

After the break , we promise lots of laughs with the incomparable Georgie Girl . One of Toronto's top " Stand up " comics .whose irreverent humor will entertain and bring joy to the day. Georgie Girl has many credits including MCing on the Molson Sound Stage on past Pride Days.

Come prepared to mix and mingle and to have fun

*Kevin McDonald*



Woodys night is continuing on the 3rd Tuesday of each at 4pm to 7pm. Good food. See you there!



**Jays**  
**OUT AT THE BALL GAME**  
COME CELEBRATE WITH US!  
Toronto Blue Jays Invite You To Celebrate  
The 1st Annual Pride Day At SkyDome  
**FRIDAY JUNE 25th 2004**  
**@7:05pm**

For more info contact  
416-341-1564 or  
[www.bluejays.com/pride](http://www.bluejays.com/pride)  
Come out and see the Jays take on their Canadian rivals the Expos and support the community, \$1.25 from every ticket will be donated to Pride Toronto.



Our first annual bowling night turned out to be a rolling, bouncing, gutter balling success. Seriously it was great fun — Gaston noted he hadn't bowled in over 55 years and when asked how he enjoyed it "and I still haven't bowled in 55 years." I know he and Dale had a great time.

Many thanks to Patrick, Al, Jim, Peter and Ron for organizing this event.



# Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

The meeting began at 6 pm on Tuesday Jun 1, 2004, 45 Carlton Street.

6 Executive Members were present, and plus 10 other members.

*Pride Update* – we need a Marshal for the parade. Will anyone volunteer?

Our entry in the parade will have a theme song and some of our talented members will dance a routine in the midst of it. We shall see the pre-pride performance at the June meeting. Toronto Chrysler has come through for us once more. There will be 2 Chrysler vehicles for our float. We just need members to come and march.

*Theme song for our float and 2009 PTWW Convention* – Arthur and Neil sang the theme song written by Sajwen A.G. Pendenque. It's sung to the tune of Mame.

*2009 PTWW Convention* committee members have met and did some preliminary planning. We will be sending our letter of intent to host the convention soon.

*Vacant positions* – we still need some hands to volunteer. Join us to have some fun.

*Treasurer's report* - we have a balance as of June 1, 2004 of \$3,531.93 net.

*Programming Committee* has set up a list of programs for the next few monthly meetings: June – our celebration of Pride 2004, a load of entertainment performed by some veterans and few talented members of our own; plus a lot of good food. Realty; Police Relations; Members Crafts Day; Travel; Nutrition/Fitness are the few topics that are on the list. Good job, members of our Program Committee.

*Member Services* – some of our members are ill. We have sent our sympathy to all that concerned. Please be aware if there are any members that you know are sick or in need of cheering up, let Don Love, our membership coordinator, know. He will be happy to send flowers or cards on behalf of our club.

*Theatre and Supper Clubs* have been getting good participation.

*New Walking group* will be formed soon.

*Play-reading and Book groups* are on summer break.

*Woody's Monthly Social* - There were over 30 members present at our first event. It could be expanded to more than once a month in the future.

Please keep your eyes and ears open for our new activities and exciting events to come.

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*Fort Hui*

**Message from the Registrar**  
[ptmembers@sympatico.ca](mailto:ptmembers@sympatico.ca)

*Welcome New members*

David M.                      Bill Crowe  
Terry Cook                    Mike Stewart

*Happy Birthday*

Jim Tait	June 20
Ian Weyman	June 22
Colin Watson	June 29
Lewis Hertzman	July 7
Earl Murphy	July 10
George Malenfant	July 10
Traylor Trash	July 11
Ian Balfour	July 15
Peter Guts	July 15

**At their request, some members' names do not appear above (or in short form)**

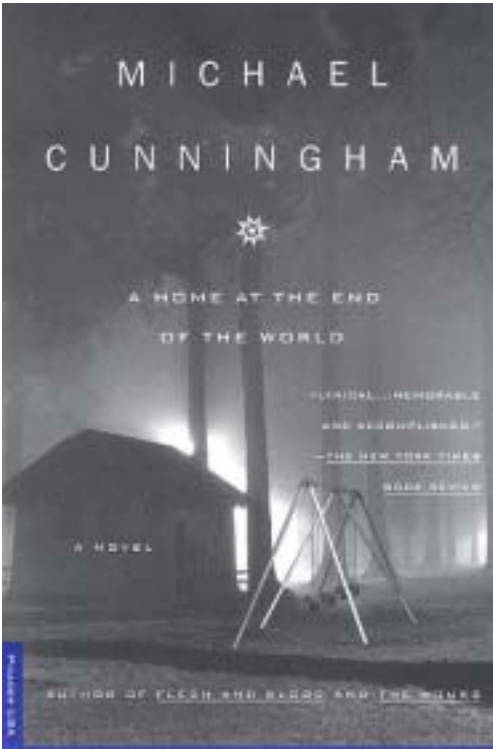
**To contact the registrar (Membership Database Programmer), email : [ptmembers@sympatico.ca](mailto:ptmembers@sympatico.ca)**

# THE HAPPY BOOKERS

## June/2004 Selection : Thomas Mann's "Death in Venice"

Released circa 1913, this novella by Thomas Mann is considered by some to be the 1st piece formally published with a distinct homoerotic theme. It received a mixed reaction. D.H. Lawrence later decried the work because of the passive sexuality and the negative, almost punitive conclusion. Many of us are familiar with the work because of the film treatment by Italian director Luchino Visconti with Dirk Bogarde in the title role. Visconti,

while true in feeling to the work, reshaped character and left out sequences to suit his own vision. The opera by Benjamin Britten is textually much truer to the original work. Some in our own discussion group were put off by the 'closeted' quality of the situation which quite possibly reflected Mann's own circumstances. The novella is very much a leisurely, mood piece somewhat overladden with mythic images. In many ways it is almost a monologue reflecting the psycho/sexual state of Aschenbach, the main character. Certainly it is a classic in the canon of gay literature and at approx. 75 pages, a brief but intriguing read.



*G. P. King*  
Co-ordinator,  
PT Book Group

### Dear Happy Bookers:

As suggested we are going to revise our summer schedule to accomodate holidays, etc. in July there will be NO MEETING. We will meet in August, but on the 17th...the 3rd Tues. and the selection will be **Michael Cunningham's "A Home at the End of the World"** which is available at

This Ain't the Rosedale Library. Have a good summer and come to the August meeting with suggestions for future selections.

*G.P. King*



### Euchre Results for May /June

	1st	2nd	Last
May 12	Mike S	Leopold	Gary B
May 19	Mike S	Dennis	Gary B
May 26	Jim E	Dennis	Al
June 2	Jim E	Tom B	Stan G
June 9	Yves M	Tom B	Stan G



*Peter Guts*  
**WEBCast**

First I would like to thank every one who was at the April meeting for the warm reception that you gave me. That alone makes the long hours and hard work of building and maintaining the web site worthwhile. For those of you who were not at the meeting, let me go over some of the points that I made.

1. When I took over the web site there wasn't much there, other than we met on the second Saturday of ever month at the 519.

2. The site has, I hope, now become a place where people could find out what we were really about and that our members find useful.

3. In the last 12 months we've had over 190,000 hits on our site from all over the world.

4. The site is ready to move on and I need the groups help to do that. I asked for their input and ideas on what they would like to see on our site. One of the things I want to highlight are our clubs and groups: to have a place for each to say a little about themselves. I asked them to put together some ideas on how they would to appear on the site. I need everyone's help to do this.

5. If you have any ideas on what you would like to see on the web site let me know.

6. If there are any web sites that you think people who visit the site would be interested in please let me know. Send them to me at [webmaster@primetimerstoronto.ca](mailto:webmaster@primetimerstoronto.ca)

7. There are two other ways that you can add to the site. One is Nora's Kitchen. If you have a recipe that you want to share send it to [noraskitchen@primetimerstoronto.ca](mailto:noraskitchen@primetimerstoronto.ca) . The second is the Wall of Wisdom or WOW as I like to call it. Here is a place that you can put just about anything. If you have anything you want to add to the Wall email it to [wow@primetimerstoronto.ca](mailto:wow@primetimerstoronto.ca) . A joke, funny stories, a rant, a rave or just what's on your mind. Send all of that anything you can think of to [wow@primetimerstoronto.ca](mailto:wow@primetimerstoronto.ca)

The Prime Timers Toronto site will always be evolving: new things added and other things removed. Some of the recent improvements include an improved photo gallery, slide shows, a new guest book and a new links page. There is also an opinion poll on the site.



## Bridge Results

	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>LOW</b>
May 12	Fred W	Fred J	Mac M	Alan R
May 13	Arthur M			Rodney G
May 19	Charlie S	Gordon H	Jon B	Lyle K
May 20	Charlie S			Rodney G
May 26	Ken T	Jack H	Eddy W	Bill A
May 27	Edward K			Bob C
June 2	Tony H	Fred J	Don L	Clayton W
June 3	Charlie S			Arthuur M
June 9	Bob C	Rodney G	Ken A	Don L
June 10	Bob C			Arthur M

Come and learn or practice your bridge every Monday at 10 AM in the Cafeteria at 519 Church St.:  
2 instructors available.

For Wednesday Bridge Club, contact **Don Middleton**  
416-923-3896

For Thursday Evening Bridge, contact **Morley Simpson**  
416-922-5683

Bridge classes end June 28, resuming Sept. 13