

The Chronicle



A monthly newsletter published by The Men's Club of Sun City Center for its members

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The GAVEL

A report from your President
By David Floyd



On March 5th we sponsored a Consumer Protection and Fraud Symposium along with the Community Foundation of Greater Tampa Bay and the Hillsborough County's Sheriff's Office. The Men's Club received a Community Service Award from Commissioner Stacy White and the Board of County Commissioners at the symposium. The award is on display at the CA Office. About 250 people attended the Symposium.

The Men's Club served our famous 1 lb. barbecued pork chops and barbeque chicken sandwiches at Funfest on March 16th. We also had Lifeline and Men's Health tables.

A big thank you to all of our members who volunteered to help with both the Symposium and Funfest. We had many volunteers.

The Lion King on March 21st at the Van Wezel Theater was sold out. It was a great event. Thank you, Jim Rottman.

In this issue of the Chronicle you will see information on the National Yellow Dot Program. This could save your life or your significant other's life. I urge you to read about it and act on it. We will see if we can get a supply of the forms from HC Station 28 to have available at our future luncheons.

Our special guests at the March Luncheon were several of the first responders from the Sun City Center's Station 28 from the Hillsborough County Fire Rescue.

If you know of members who are ill or who have passed away please let Joe DeFelice – 922-6232, the Chair of our Sunshine Committee or David Rubin - 633-3705, his assistant, know so that we can make the appropriate responses. The Men's Club is still looking for additional volunteers to serve on the Sun-Shine Committee to contact through cards and/or visits, members who are ill. If you are interested on serving this committee, please contact either Joe DeFelice or David Rubin.



Talk Baseball

We have some really great news about our April 17 meeting. A very special speaker is heading our way.

Our speaker for April is **Orestes Destrade**, long time Rays' broadcaster and former major league baseball player. Orestes spent 15 seasons in pro baseball with the Yankees, Pirates, Seibu Lions of the Japanese Pacific League and the Marlins as a designated hitter, first baseman and outfielder. He led the Japanese Pacific League in home runs for three consecutive seasons (1990-92) and was named Most Valuable Player of the 1990 Japan Series.



Currently, Orestes is in his seventh season as a pre- and postgame host for the RAYS LIVE! show and an in-game sideline analyst for select Rays home games. In addition to his role with FOX Sports Sun, he enters his second season as director of baseball and community outreach with the Rays. Prior to joining the Rays broadcast, Orestes worked for ESPN as a host on Baseball Tonight and an analyst for the Little League World Series for five years. He also hosted live weekday radio sports talk shows on XM Radio and ESPN Radio, in addition to making several appearances on ESPN Deportes' TV and radio programs."

APRIL MENU: Meat Loaf with Gravy

Salmon Florentine

Veggies, Salad Bar & Desserts

The purpose of The Men's Club of Sun City Center is to provide and promote charitable community service, cultural, social and civic interest, and to cooperate with other clubs and organizations in the best interest of Sun City Center.



Consumer Protection Symposium Highlights Imposter Fraud

Imposter fraud is costing area residents millions of dollars. That was the message from speakers at the Second Annual Consumer Protection and Fraud Symposium held on March 5 in Sun City Center. According to both Andrew Sekala, FBI Supervisory Agent, Jeff Merry, Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office Resource Deputy for Sun City Center, "romance scam" is the number one scheme defrauding area residents.

In the "romance scam", computer users on social media sites prey upon lonely but unsuspecting men and woman, gain their confidence and affection by pretending to be someone appealing to the victim, and then ultimately persuade their "marks" to part with thousands of dollars. According to Agent Sekala, most of these scrams originate from Nigeria.



Above: Col. Jim Bradford

Other common imposter schemes pointed out by the speakers involve callers pretending to be from the IRS collected back taxes, from a law enforcement agency with a summons regarding missed jury duty, or from Microsoft claiming there is a problem with your computer. Art Smith, speaking on behalf of the Florida Attorney General's Seniors vs. Crime project, pointed out that calls can easily falsify caller ID information and therefore residents can't rely on that caller ID to verify the call is legitimate.

During the event, the Men's Club was presented with a Commendation by Hillsborough County Commissioner Stacie White for its ongoing work in Sun City Center. More than 250 area residents attended the event sponsored



Hillsborough County Commissioner Stacie White (right) presents a commendation to The Men's Club for its work in the Sun City Center Community. President David Floyd accepts the plaque (which now is on display in the CA offices.)

by the Men's Club of SCC, the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office and the Community Foundation of Tampa Bay. The heard speakers from the Better Business Bureau, Homeland Security, Seniors vs. Crime and the Hillsborough County Consumer Protection Agency talk about common scams and ways in which residents could protect themselves.

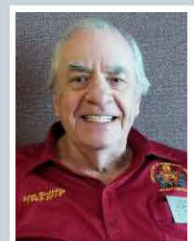
Sheriff Chad Chronister opened the event with a video message. Colonel Jim Bradford, head of the HCSO investigative division also made remarks, stressing the importance of consumer awareness in preventing fraud.

If you plan to attend the April meeting you MUST have made a reservation in advance. Our Steward, Don Murphy, depends on an accurate reservation count to ensure our caterer has enough food and we have enough seats for one and all. We need an advance count on guests, too. No Exceptions!

To make your reservation for lunch on April 17 send an email to

Mens.Club.Lunch.Reservations@gmail.com

or telephone our reservation line at 813-938-3545 before Noon on Sunday, April 14



Don Murphy

