

***THE BRONX CLUB OF  
VEGAS VALLEY  
NEWSLETTER  
MARCH 2011***



***Mayor Fiorella LaGuardia opening Orchard Beach  
in Pelham Bay Park, 7/25/36***

**If you require any information concerning the Club, know of anyone interested in joining, or have ideas for upcoming events you would like to host, please contact me Leslie Schoenberg [ls1166@aol.com](mailto:ls1166@aol.com), 838-3560 or Sue Braun [suefromtustin@yahoo.com](mailto:suefromtustin@yahoo.com), cell 510-7788. In addition, I am also the Newsletter Editor. If you have, any articles about The Bronx that you would like to have put in the Newsletter, please forward them to me at the above email address.**

## **Jewish Repertoire Theatre of Nevada**

**I have been able to work out special arrangements for Club members to receive a discount to attend presentations given by JRTN. For the upcoming play, "Rumors" by Neil Simon presented in conjunction with The Neil Simon Festival. We can order tickets for Tuesday, March 29, at 7:30pm, Wednesday, March 30, or Thursday March 31 at 8:00pm. In order to receive the discounted price of \$17.00, you must call the following number (702) 243-6950 and mention that you are with The Bronx Club of Vegas Valley. That is the number at the box office. Tickets ordered on line are not eligible for this special pricing. There is no limit to the number of tickets you can purchase. This presentation is at The Adelson Educational Campus, 9700 W. Hillpointe Road. A brief description of the play follows.**

*In Neil Simon's "Rumors", doors slam and hilarity abounds. As confusions and mis-communications mount, the play spins off into classic farcical comedy. At its start, four couples gather in the posh townhouse of a deputy New York City mayor and his wife to celebrate their tenth anniversary. When they arrive, they discover there are no servants, no food, the hostess is missing and the host has shot himself.*

*Complications arise when, given everyone's status in the community, they decide they need to do everything possible to conceal the evening's events from the local police and the media.*

*"Light, frothy and fun."  
-The New York Post-*

*"Has nothing on its mind except making the audience laugh."  
-The New York Times-*

*"Not only side splitting, but front and back splitting."  
-NBC TV-*

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**March 20, 2011- Our event will be held at N.Y. Pizza & Pasta, 2400 S Jones (at Sahara), 871-1159 at 6:00 pm. Click here for a copy of their menu.**

**[New York Pizza & Pasta - Vegas](#) | [Pizza Delivery Las Vegas](#) | [Online Menu](#).**

**Your host is Leslie Schoenberg. Please respond no later than March 14, to me at 838-3560 or [ls1166@aol.com](mailto:ls1166@aol.com). We will have a singer, Michel Martel to entertain us. The charge will be \$1.00 a person to cover his expense. More information about his impressive musical past follows.**

### **Michel Martel Bio**

**This energetic man has a remarkable history and is now making his living from singing engagements about town. Mr. Martel has experienced the entire gamut of life. He has worked as a laborer and a waiter. He studied physics and yoga, and at one point in his life, he was on a panel where he debated Isaac Asimov on the subject of creation.**

**He was born on the tiny island of Mauritius, just east of Madagascar. At age 14, he and his family moved to South Africa.**

**In 1963, Martel and 3 co-writers achieved stardom as authors of the '65/'66 Broadway hit "Wait a Minim" (minim in musical terms is a half note.) It was the biggest hit in the history of South Africa. After a 2 year run in London's Fortune Theatre, breaking all house records, "Wait a Minim" moved to Broadway and played the John Golden Theatre, receiving The Outer Circle Critics Award.**

**After Broadway, Martel did an eight year "Tour of America." "I found it hard to accept stardom," Martel said. "I left a successful career to seek enlightenment, to understand my purposes for being and to learn how best to contribute toward the betterment of humanity."**

**He traveled to Australia, Hong Kong and Malaysia doing cabaret and TV appearances. In 1984, Martel moved to Las Vegas ready to sing again. He presents his music as "For the Love of Music, a Celebration of the Diversity of Music." His voice has retained the qualities and versatility that have earned him high praise internationally. He is best known for the beautiful love ballads he opens his show with. Then he will take you on a musical journey featuring the best of Broadway, some of the most popular standards and a touch of International songs.**

**April 17, 2011 –David and Doris Bluth ([dorisbluth@yahoo.com](mailto:dorisbluth@yahoo.com)), and Harvey and Idele Kaplan ([bassett4@cox.net](mailto:bassett4@cox.net)), will host this month's event. Last day to respond is April 11. The event will begin at 5:30 pm, in the Clubhouse of La Mancha, on Cielo Vista, which is off Buffalo between Vegas and Lake Mead. When you respond, you can get more specific directions from Doris or Idele. This month we will have a BBQ tentatively featuring pork ribs, chicken, yams, veggie cocktail (suitable for vegetarians or vegans), bread, garden/Caesar salad and peach cobbler. Your hosts will provide cake, coffee and soft drinks. The cost per person is \$14.00. We are fortunate to once again have Peggy Thompson entertain us. She was such a big hit at our event last August.**

**May 15, 2011. Please note the May event has certain requirements not common to most events. "Showtime 2011" will be held at 2:00 pm at The Starbright Theatre, 2215 Thomas Ryan Blvd, in Sun City. Tickets must be ordered by April 4<sup>th</sup> and cost \$11.00 each. To order tickets contact Judy Auerbach at 242-0727 or [jeadancer@cox.net](mailto:jeadancer@cox.net). Doors open at 1:30 pm. The show will be preceded by brunch at the Vista Grille, in The Palm Valley Clubhouse, at Del Webb Blvd and Echo Mesa Street in Sun City. Food is ordered at the counter and picked up when your number is called. If we have a very large turnout, we will have brunch at Tavern at the Falls, also in Sun City. If you can make only the show or the brunch, please let Judy know when you call her to respond. Please ask Judy for directions when you call for your tickets. Note the final day to respond and get your payment to Judy is April 4, 2011.**

**Additional information to follow in future newsletters for the events mentioned below:**

**June 19, hosted by Norm and Margie Karp, There will be a speaker on Identity Theft. NY Pizza and Pasta, Sahara and Jones.**

**July 17, hosted by Ron and Sandy Scher, Tentatively, Speaker from the Department of Aviation.**

**August 21, hosted by Les and Sue Braun, Speaker is a first responder.**

**As you can see, members are stepping up to keep the Club going. Please think about doing your share to help.**



**THE HISTORY OF THE BRONX ZOO, RECENTLY RENAMED THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION SOCIETY.**



**Bronx Zoo**

*The Bronx Zoo is one of the most famous zoos in the world. In 1898, the City of New York allotted 250 acres of Bronx Park to the New York Zoological Society to build a park aimed at preserving native animals and promoting zoology. The Bronx Zoo opened November 8, 1899, see program below, and remains one of the largest wildlife conservation parks in the United States, housing 4,000 animals representing more than 650 species.*



**Several architectural features at the zoo are official city landmarks, including the entire area from the Rainey Gate entrance on Fordham Road (itself landmarked in 1967) to the far end of Astor Court at Zoo Center (landmarked in 2000). The buildings in Astor Court were designed by the firm of Heins & Lafarge, who also designed the original plans for the cathedral of St. John the Divine in Manhattan's Morningside Heights and many of the subway station details on the IRT line. Another landmarked feature, the Rockefeller Fountain, was built by Italian sculptor Biagio Catella in 1872, donated to the Zoological Society by William Rockefeller in 1903, and moved to its present spot in 1910 (in 2008 the fountain was restored). Another historic landmark is a souvenir from the Ice Age known as the Rocking Stone overlooking the Buffalo Range. The stone is a rough cube of pinkish granite, resting on a granite slab base; even though it is roughly seven feet high and 30 tons, it is balanced perfectly and cannot be moved.**



**A great deal of the ongoing work at the zoo is unseen to visitors. The Wildlife Society supports conservation efforts as far away as Africa and sends its animals around the country to breed. In fact, the Society has been at the forefront of conservation and field research since its earliest days, beginning with a successful effort to save the American bison from extinction in 1907.**

***The Society helped advocate for the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska, which opened in 1960, and assisted and worked to establish wildlife preserves in countries such as Tanzania, Kenya, China, and Argentina.***



***The zoo made strides to pull animals out of cages early on, especially with the groundbreaking African Plains habitat, the first exhibit of which opened in 1940 when "Lion Island" debuted. The zoo's Skyfari aerial tram opened in 1973 and in 1977, the Wild Asia exhibit opened on 38 acres of previously undeveloped land. The specially designed monorail takes visitors through an Asian wild animal habitat. At its opening featured elephants, lions, tigers, rhinoceroses, and deer. In 1999, the \$43 million Congo Gorilla Forest opened, featuring several different climates and a viewing tunnel for visitors. The zoo's \$8.5 million Tiger Mountain exhibit opened in 2003, allowing visitors an eye-level (actually eye-to-eye level: the Siberian tigers are behind two-inch-thick glass) view where at one time the animals could be seen only via a Monorail ride.***

***The habitat features heated rocks and cooled water, allowing the tigers a climate-controlled environment. The exhibit is an outgrowth of a partnership between American and Russian biologists, one of the fruits of the zoo's research missions. The zoo's most recent addition, Madagascar, which opened in 2008, highlights the unique habitat of the African island, including four types of lemurs, crocodiles, and hissing cockroaches.***



***Notable animals over the years have included Pattycake, the much-loved thirty-something gorilla born in the Central Park Zoo in 1972 and relocated to the Bronx Zoo in 1982, and Samantha the Python, who when she died in 2002 was over 30 years old, 26 feet long, and 275 pounds. Three famous elephants, Patty, Maxine, and Happy, are still in the zoo, although the officials announced that the pachyderms might be moved to another institution if one or more of them dies (elephants do not survive well outside a group setting). Patty and Maxine (along with LaVerne, who died) are named for the Andrews Sisters.***

***The Bronx Zoo has many monuments presented to the city including Paul Manship's expressive Rainey Memorial Gate, featuring 22 full-sized sculpted animals rising above on a vine-like pattern located at the Fordham Road entrance to the zoo, and the aforementioned Rockefeller Fountain.***



*Original Aviary*



*Platypus pool being built*



*The original elephant house*

**The following site shows many police stations in The Bronx going back to the 1800's. [Click here: POLICE NY the "house"](#)**

**Harriet and Rob Stein contributed the following site, [BRONX BOARD](#). There are many interesting items to review. They bring back many memories.**