

# ***THE BRONX CLUB OF VEGAS VALLEY NEWSLETTER APRIL 2012***



***Bronx Victory Memorial  
Commemorating Bronx casualties in WWI***

***If you require any information about the Club, know of anyone interested in joining, or have ideas for upcoming events you would like to host, please contact Leslie (me) or Sue at the following website address. You can also use our website to get any information about the Club and the upcoming events: <http://bronx.xadar.com>.***

***I, Leslie Schoenberg, am also the Newsletter Editor. If you have, any articles or pictures about The Bronx that you would like to have put in the Newsletter, please forward them to me at the following email address: [cochair.bronxclub@xadar.com](mailto:cochair.bronxclub@xadar.com).***

### **WEBSITE ADDITION:**

***There is a new link on our website. It is located right under the picture of The Bronx Zoo. It reads, "Send an RSVP response," or just click on the following link <http://bronx.xadar.com/respond.php>***

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

***April 22, 2011 - Note this is the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month. Phyllis and David Selman host this event. We will have a private room at Buca di Beppo, 7690 W. Lake Mead Blvd., 363-6524, [www.bucadibeppo.com](http://www.bucadibeppo.com) and as always, you will receive separate checks. To respond to our hosts, by the deadline of April 18, please send an email to [aprhost.bronxclub@xadar.com](mailto:aprhost.bronxclub@xadar.com), or just send an RSVP response. Our guest speaker is Dr. Daliah Wachs. Following is some information about Dr. Wachs.***

***Putting her toy microphone in her mouth instead of a pacifier, Dr. Daliah Wachs was ready to entertain since she was in diapers. She knew at the age of three she wanted to be a doctor and an entertainer. She had no idea she would be blending the two later in life.***

***At college age, Dr. Daliah was offered the opportunity to take on a career in singing and comedy or accept an academic scholarship to UNLV and embark on a medical career. She chose the latter, earned an Honors Degree at UNLV, and graduated Cum Laude. She went to medical school at the University of Nevada School of Medicine in Reno, trained, and completed her 4th year at UCLA. She returned to Reno to graduate and then began a three-year Family Medicine Residency in Las Vegas, which she completed in 2000 as Chief Resident. During her residency, she worked as an Emergency Room Physician in Lake Havasu, AZ, and as an Urgent Care Physician in Bullhead City, AZ.***

***She then became Board Certified in Family Medicine and immediately opened her practice in Las Vegas, NV. Dr. Daliah Wachs has owned and operated Integrative Family Medicine for many years. She has taken care of, while entertaining, thousands of patients. She teaches and performs lectures to students at Touro University, the University of Nevada School of Medicine and UNLV. Dr. Daliah was nominated Woman of the Year by the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society is a board member for FAST4Kids as well as many other achievements. In her spare time, she has been seen and heard on multiple television and radio shows.***

***May 20, 2012- The hosts of this event are Sue Braun and Leslie Schoenberg. Our meeting will be at Mimi's Café, 1121 S. Ft Apache, just south of Charleston Blvd. Please respond by May 15, to [mayhost.bronxclub@xadar.com](mailto:mayhost.bronxclub@xadar.com). Our guest speaker is Tim Szymanski, the Public Education and Information Officer for Las Vegas Fire and Rescue. He has held this position for the past 16 years.***

***Tim has worked in every position from firefighter/paramedic to fire chief in the past 41 years of his career. He has worked in Cleveland, Atlanta and Las Vegas. His main duties are to work with the news media and to educate the public about fire and life safety. He holds several state and national fire service credentials. He is currently a Master Fire & Life Safety Educator in the state of Nevada. He has received several awards during his career, the most important being 1986 Georgia State Firefighter of the Year. He has also received Commendation from Georgia Governor Joe Frank Harris in 1987, Meritorious Award for Lifesaving from the city of Winder, Georgia for rescuing a woman trapped in a house fire, Atlanta Public Safety Employee of the Year 1996. City of Las Vegas Employee of the Year 1999, Fire & Life Safety Award from Las Vegas City Council 2007, National Liberty Mutual Insurance Firemark Award for Community Service in 2008, Nevada Broadcasters Association Community Service Award in 2008 and the Community Association Institute of Nevada 2009 Lifetime Achievement Award. In addition to all the above, Tim has attended over 500 fire schools, is a guest instructor at the National Fire Academy outside Washington, D.C. and writes a monthly article in the leading fire service publication, Firehouse Magazine. He was the fire & emergency PIO for the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta. He is married to Ellen, whom he has been with for the past 43 years, has two sons and three grandchildren.***

***We are looking for hosts for June (second Sunday not 3<sup>rd</sup>), July, August, September, October and November (second Sunday, not 3<sup>rd</sup>). Please step up and do your share as a member of the Club.***

## **The Sixties Quiz**

**How well do you remember the major events of the '60s? Are you willing to test your memory? We found a great, fun, 60s quiz on a website devoted to Baby Boomers: Baby Boomer Headquarters ([www.BBHQ.com](http://www.BBHQ.com)).**

**The Sixties Quiz lists 51 events that MAY have taken place in the '60s. If an event did, then answer YES. Otherwise, answer NO. You will get the correct answer immediately. Are you ready to start? Then [click here](#).**

**(Sorry, we can't print the quiz here. It's copyrighted).**

**The following members are celebrating April birthdays:**

<b>Joe Carrier</b>	<b>April 4</b>
<b>David Selman</b>	<b>April 5</b>
<b>Seymour Cohen</b>	<b>April 11</b>
<b>Arlene Cohen</b>	<b>April 16</b>
<b>David Einhorn</b>	<b>April 17</b>
<b>David Bluth</b>	<b>April 2</b>

## **The Penny Postcard**

**What did your hometown look like during the era of the penny postcard?**

**[Click here>>](#)Penny Postcards**

**Click on the state, then on the county, to see old penny picture postcards from that area. Some larger counties have individual cities. Then double click the card to enlarge it... pretty neat.**

**Someone has an enormous collection of post cards!**



## ***THE BRONX CLUB OF VEGAS VALLEY LADIES CLUB INVITATION***

***WHERE:*** China Ginger, 5035 South Ft. Apache, at the corner of Tropicana and Ft. Apache, 876-1889

***WHEN:*** Thursday May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2012, 11:30 am

***HOST:*** Susan Blonder

***RSVP:*** 395-6878

***NOTES:*** There is no Ladies luncheon in April. The meeting would have been too close to the holidays. The above information is for May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Separate checks will be given. You can order from a special lunch menu. Check out their website: China Ginger | Las Vegas - Menu. Tea is 25 cents a person. Let Susan Blonder know if you are coming or not.

## **CONTINUED FROM LAST MONTHS EDITION: BRONX PARKS**

### **Pelham Bay Park**

***More than three times the size of Manhattan's Central Park, Pelham Bay Park is the City's largest park property. Visitors to the park enjoy miles of bridle paths and hiking trails, Orchard Beach, the Bartow-Pell Mansion, two golf courses, and a breathtaking 13-mile saltwater shoreline that hugs the Long Island Sound.***

***The Siwanoy Native Americans originally inhabited this area, attracted by the plentiful deer, turtle, and sturgeon. When the Dutch West India Company purchased the land from them in 1639, they termed the area "Vreedelandt," meaning land of freedom. However, after years of unsuccessful attempts to occupy the land, the Siwanoy still controlled the area. The most famous of these failed communities was the short-lived English colony founded by Anne Hutchinson in what is now the northwest corner of this park. Having fled religious persecution in Puritan Massachusetts, Hutchinson and most of her party were killed by Native Americans just a short time later in 1643. The nearby Hutchinson River bears her name.***

***Englishman Thomas Pell purchased 50,000 acres of land from the Siwanoy in 1654. Park goers can visit the site of the tree where he and Siwanoy leader Chief Wampage made their pact. In 1666, King Charles II chartered this land as part of the Manor of Pelham. During the Revolutionary War, Pell's land was part of the buffer between the British-held Manhattan and rebel-held Westchester. Hiding behind stone walls, 600 Massachusetts Patriots stopped the British and Hessian forces from making their way north from Rodman's Neck. Remains of the walls can be seen in the Split Rock Golf Course. A plaque at Glover's Rock commemorates this battle at Pell Point.***

***After the Pell family sold most of the land, Robert Bartow, a publisher and Pell descendant, purchased the remainder in 1836. He built the Bartow-Pell Mansion in 1842, a grey stone mansion with Greek revival interiors located on Shore Road. It remained in the family until 1888, when the City acquired the estate. The International Garden Club Incorporated has maintained the mansion and its grounds since 1914. The site opened as a museum and educational center in 1947. The park's other historic residence, Hunter Mansion, was built in 1804. It once housed a collection of fine wines as well as paintings by European masters. Today only fragments of the foundation and landscaped features endure.***

***In the late 1800s, Bronx resident and founder of the New York Parks Association, John Mullaly spearheaded a movement to retain some of the natural areas before they were destroyed by overdevelopment. The State Legislature appointed a commission to acquire large tracts of land to form a Bronx parks system. Pelham Bay Park officially became Bronx Parks Department property in 1888 when the City of the Bronx purchased the land for a total cost of \$2,746,688 and changed the collection of estates into a unified park. The original site was over 1,700 acres.***

***The park evolved from natural woodland into an enhanced recreational facility when Parks Commissioner Robert Moses (1888–1981) filled the park with playgrounds, comfort stations and other amenities. He upgraded the Pelham and Split Rock Golf Courses in the 1930s and began one of his most ambitious park projects: the building of today’s Orchard Beach. Eager to increase public use of the area, Moses initiated an \$8 million project that added a new parking lot and a 90,000-square-foot bathhouse complex. When it opened in 1936, the landfill-fortified beach attracted thousands of bathers. In 1947, the beach was extended 1.25 miles by filling in the shallow water in Leroy’s Bay between Hunter and Twin islands, adding 115 acres of parkland. When the Department of Sanitation received permission to use the area south of the Pelham Bridge as a landfill, conservation groups succeeded in having the State designate 375 acres of marshland as a wildlife refuge. The Thomas Pell Wildlife Refuge was created in 1967. The Victory Memorial, see front page, (1933) commemorating the Bronx casualties in World War I.***

## **Van Cortlandt Park**

***Around twenty thousand years ago, New York was buried beneath massive glaciers. When the ice receded, it left behind the characteristic sketch of Van Cortlandt Park—steep ridges, smooth hillsides, and open flats—and exposed its three major rock components: Fordham Gneiss, Inwood Dolomite, and Manhattan Schist. It took about seven thousand years for Paleo-Indians to arrive in this area, following mastodon, giant beaver, and caribou across North America. By 1000 AD, Woodland Indians known as the Lenape began permanent settlements from lower New York State through Delaware. The Wiechquaskeck Lenapes occupied this site when, in 1639, the Dutch East India Company brought the first Europeans to settle in The Bronx. In 1646, Dutchman Adriaen Van Der Donck (1620-1655) became the first single owner of what is now Van Cortlandt Park. His vast estate “de Jonkeerslandt” gave Yonkers its name. The land passed through several families, each gradually developing it into viable farmland and a working plantation. During the 1690s, the 16-acre lake was created when Tibbett’s Brook was dammed to power a gristmill.***

***The Van Cortlandt name was first associated with the tract of land bounded by modern Yonkers City Line between Broadway, Jerome Avenue, and Van Cortlandt Park East in 1694, when Jacobus Van Cortlandt bought the property. His son, Frederick Van Cortlandt, whose family occupied the land until the 1880s, built the Van Cortlandt Mansion in 1748. Frederick also established the family burial plot on Vault Hill where, at the onset of the American Revolution, City Clerk Augustus Van Cortlandt hid the city records from the British Army.***

***The 41-mile-long Croton Aqueduct was the first public work built on the site in 1837, bringing water from Westchester County to the site currently occupied by the main branch of the New York Public Library at 42nd Street. In the 1880s, two railroad lines were laid across the parkland. The Putnam Railroad Line established service to Brewster and points north. A spur of this line provided a quick trip northwest through the park to Yonkers' Getty Square.***

***The City of New York acquired this parkland in 1888, but it did not name it in honor of its long-time residents until 1913. The first municipal golf course in the country opened here in 1895; a second golf course, the Mosholu Golf Course, opened in 1914. By a special act of the New York State Legislature, the Van Cortlandt Mansion leased by City of New York to the Society of Colonial Dames and the historic house opened as a museum in 1897. The Parade Ground created in 1901, and National Guard used it for training exercises until the end of World War I. In 1906, The Bronx Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution dedicated a cairn of stones as a memorial to Chief Daniel Nimham, his son Captain Abraham Nimham, and as many as 14 other Stockbridge Indians who were slain there during the Revolutionary War.***

***In 1913, the Cross-Country Running Course opened, featuring both 5-mile and 3-mile loops. Van Cortlandt Stadium opened in 1939, and three years later the Getty Square spur of the New York Central Railroad was removed and the property given back as parkland. The horse stables and adjoining bridle path opened in 1955. Two nature trails added in the 1980s offer hikers the opportunity to explore the wetlands and forests in this park. The Cass Gallagher Nature Trail (1984) is dedicated to a longtime Bronx resident and environmental activist, and the John Kieran Nature Trail (1988) commemorates a famed naturalist and newspaperman. In 1997, the first east-west connector trail was established and named for renowned naturalist John Muir.***



***A series of fiscal crises in the municipal government during the 1970s inspired the local community to join Parks in preserving this park. The Administrator's Office was established in 1983 to oversee all operations, maintenance and management. In 1992, a group of Bronx residents formed the Friends of Van Cortlandt Park to protect, promote, and preserve this invaluable green space. In addition to fund-raising for renovations and planning public events in the park, each summer the Friends administer a program for local youth that work on preserving the park's natural resources. With facilities for football, baseball, softball, soccer, cricket, tennis, golf, swimming, horseback riding, running, and hiking constantly improving, the future of New York City's fourth largest park looks greener than ever.***

### ***March Event***

***On March 18 we had our March event at New York Pizza and Pasta. I hosted the event. As our guests, we had K-9 handlers from Metro, Officers Scott Murray and Jeff Parker, along with their K-9 partner, Rocco. Following are some pictures from that event.***



***Metro Officer Scott Murray discussing the training they undergo with their K-9 partners before they go out on the streets.***



***Host Leslie Schoenberg, K-9 Officer Parker and Rocco***



***Officer Parker and his K-9 partner, Rocco***



***Officer Murray talking to our Members***



***Members left to right Marv Karp, JoAnne Geller, Officer Parker and Sue Alesavich***