

# ***THE BRONX CLUB OF VEGAS VALLEY NEWSLETTER MARCH 2013***

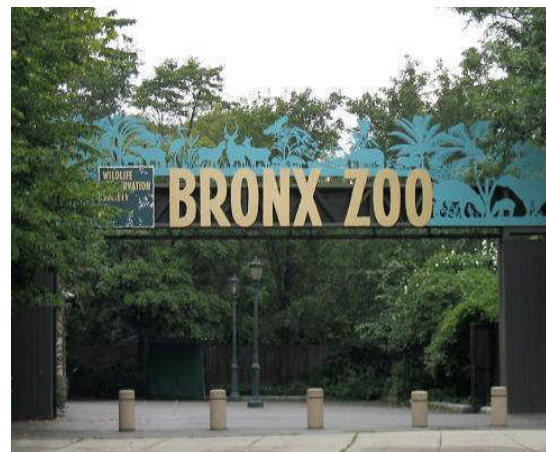
## ***OUR LOGO***



***Yankee Stadium***



***The Loews Paradise***



***Entrance to The Bronx Zoo***

***For more information about the Bronx Club of Vegas  
Valley, <http://bronx.xadar.com>***

***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 me at [cochair.bronxclub@xadar.com](mailto:cochair.bronxclub@xadar.com).***

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

### **WEBMASTERS' ADDRESS:**

***Any questions about the website, please contact the webmaster at: [webmaster.bronxclub@xadar.com](mailto:webmaster.bronxclub@xadar.com)***

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**March 17, 2013**

***Our hosts are Michael and Ronnie Sander. Dinner will be at Claim Jumper, 1100 S. Fort Apache Road, at Charleston Blvd., 243-8751. As always separate checks will be given, and there will be a \$2.00 charge per person. Their guest for our meeting is Dan Roberts, who writes Roberts Rules for the Vegas Voice. Following is a brief bio.***

***Dan Roberts is the Publisher and Editor of The Vegas Voice – the largest “Age 50+” monthly newspaper in Nevada. He is also co-host of The Vegas Voice Radio Show heard weekly on KLAV, 1230am.***

***In his previous life, he served as the General Counsel and Executive Director for the New York State Ambulance Association, New York State Ambulette Association and the New York State Medical Transportation Coalition. He was also an adjunct professor at Long Island University.***

***We have no volunteers after March 2013. This is your Club please help.***

***If you can host an event from April to June or September to November, please let us know so we can put it in the schedule of upcoming events. This is your club, please volunteer to keep it going.***

***Thanks,  
Sue and Leslie***

***The following article was sent in by Greg Abbott.***

### ***The Polo Grounds***



***The John T. Brush Stairway, built by the Giants in 1913, winds from Coogan's Bluff to the site of the old Polo Grounds below.***

***Ed Lucas ran down the John T. Brush Stairway, behind the Polo Grounds, a little boy thrilled about going to his first big league ballgame.***

***He and his father, Ed Sr., a lifelong Giants fan, were making their way down from Coogan's Bluff, the hillside overlooking the horseshoe-shaped ballpark in Upper Manhattan.***

***Several years later, Lucas negotiated the steep concrete steps more slowly, because this time he couldn't see them. At 12 years old, he was blinded by a freak baseball sandlot accident while recreating Bobby Thomson's famed "Shot Heard Round the World", the pennant-winning homer hit on Oct. 3, 1951.***

***Now 18, his love for baseball hadn't dimmed. In fact, the anticipation was even greater because he was going to interview the New York Giants' greatest player, Willie Mays.***

***"That was 1957, the last year the Giants were in New York," said Lucas, of Union, N.J. "I remember holding on my uncle's arm and going down the steps very slowly from Coogan's Bluff so I could go into the Polo Grounds through the press gate. My uncle, Gene Furey, was carrying a large Pentron reel-to-reel tape recorder. The door we entered went right through to the dugout, because if you remember, the clubhouses at the Polo Grounds were in center field. We were greeted by an attendant named Barney O'Toole. He set the tape recorder up in the dugout and brought different players over -- Willie Mays, Bobby Thomson, Gail Harris, Whitey Lockman, Don Mueller."***

***Millions of fans used the John T. Brush Stairway from 1913 until the Mets, who played their first two seasons at the Polo Grounds, left Manhattan for Queens following the 1963 season. Few people have more vivid memories of the steps than Lucas, or a greater appreciation for their place in New York baseball history. For the past half-century, he's gained the admiration and respect of countless ballplayers as a blind sports journalist.***

***The steps were named for the late Giants owner, who presided over the team from 1890 until his death in 1912. In fact, the third and final version of the Polo Grounds was called Brush Stadium from 1911, when it was reconstructed following a fire, until 1919. It was a name that never stuck.***

***The concrete-and-steel ballpark replaced the earlier wooden version. Home plate was near the base of Coogan's Bluff, with the diamond facing east toward The Bronx, on the opposite side of the Harlem River. The outfield was a massive expanse, 483 feet from home plate to the clubhouse steps in dead center field.***

***Harry N. Hempstead, Brush's son-in-law who succeeded him as owner of the Giants, had the John T. Brush Stairway built and presented it to the city during ceremonies on July 9, 1913.***

***From atop Coogan's Bluff, above and behind the Polo Grounds, the stairway went from Edgecombe Avenue, between 157th and 158th Streets, down to the ticket booths behind home plate. The stairs also gave people a way to reach the Speedway, a once-popular Harlem River promenade, in addition to seeing some of baseball's greatest and worst teams, from John McGraw's Giants, who played***

***in nine World Series from 1903-24, to the 1962 Mets, who lost more games than any team.***

***For nearly a half-century, however, the stairway has played a different role, carrying tenants to a high-rise housing project that replaced the Polo Grounds, and until recently they had crumbled into a dim reminder of a once-proud, bygone era.***

***In 2011, the New York City Parks and Recreation Department launched a \$950,000 restoration project and now the stairway is scheduled for a "soft opening" this spring. Major League Baseball gave \$50,000 to the project, along with other old Polo Grounds tenants -- the San Francisco Giants; the Yankees, who played there from 1913-23; the Mets; the New York Jets (nee Titans), who played their first four AFL seasons there, and the New York football Giants, who played there from 1925-55.***

***About halfway up the stairway there is a landing, before the steps turn left to the top of the hill. Steel letters in the concrete landing say, "The John T. Brush Stairway, presented by the New York Giants".***

***The original steel lettering has remained intact for the past century, although corners of the landing have broken away. During restoration, the landing is being returned to its original look.***

***"The letters were removed and are being reinstalled," said Philip Abramson, parks department spokesman. "The stairway reconstruction maintains the location and characteristics of the prior stairway. While incorporating similar material elements of steel and concrete, the stairway is being upgraded to meet today's building code. The lower landscaped area of the stairway will include new picnic tables and add a game table, benches and landscape elements."***

***A rededication ceremony is anticipated, with details forthcoming when the project is complete. Fans of the New York Giants baseball team hope it will be on July 9, on the stairway's 100th anniversary. For them, it's the most exciting development at the site since their team won the 1954 World Series.***

***"This is the last piece of real evidence that the Polo Grounds existed, other than the plaque that indicates where the approximate location of home plate was," said Gary Mintz, president of the New York Giants Preservation Society. "It would be wonderful if they would add signage or statues in the area. Perhaps they can name***



***some trails after famous Giants like Carl Hubbell, Mel Ott, John McGraw and Christy Mathewson or maybe have a statue of Mays making 'The Catch' or Thomson's 'Shot Heard 'Round the World.'***

***"This is historic ground and should be preserved and treasured any way possible. The Giants' history in New York was tremendous and judging by the legions of fans today, the New York Giants and San Francisco Giants haven't been forgotten.***

***Members celebrating birthdays this month are:***

***March 11 Stan Madris***

***March 12 Rita Ort***

***March 27 Barbara Abbott***

***Celebrating anniversaries this month are:***

***Ron and Sandy Scher their 34<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on March 23.***

***Arnie and Arlene Ruditsky their 48<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on March 27.***



## ***THE BRONX CLUB OF VEGAS VALLEY INVITATION TO OUR MARCH EVENT***

**Where:**        *Our March event will be held at the Claim Jumper Restaurant, S. Fort Apache. Their telephone number is 243-8751.*

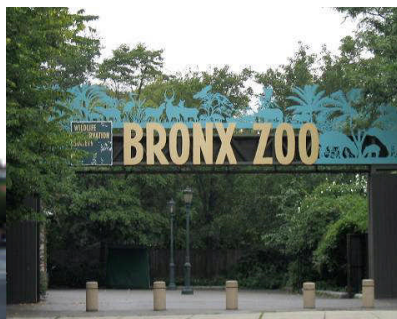
**When:**        *March 17, 2013, 6:00 pm*

**Hosts:**        *Mike and Ronnie Sander*

**RSVP:**        *Send an [EZ RSVP Response](#), or an email to [marhost.bronxclub@xadar.com](mailto:marhost.bronxclub@xadar.com), by March 13.*

**NOTES:**        *Dan Roberts is the Publisher and Editor of The Vegas Voice – the largest "Age 50+" monthly newspaper in Nevada. He is also co-host of The Vegas Voice Radio Show heard weekly on KLAV, 1230am.*

*Separate checks will be given and as always there is a \$2.00 charge per person.*



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

***WHERE:*** *BJ's Restaurant and Brewhouse, 10804 Charleston Blvd, (across from Red Rock Casino). Their telephone number is 853-2300.*

***WHEN:*** *Thursday March 21, 2013, 12:30 pm*

***HOST:*** *Rita Ort*

***RSVP:*** *email to [ladies.bronxclub@xadar.com](mailto:ladies.bronxclub@xadar.com), or Call Rita at 242-8924.*

***NOTES:*** *Following is their website :  
<http://www.bjsbrewhouse.com/menu>*



## **QUESTIONS FOR PRESIDENT'S TRIVIA**

- 1. What President was stuck in the White House tub the first time he used it?**
- 2. Who had the longest inaugural address?**
- 3. What President loved to read, and was quoted "I cannot live without books". He was also known for his gardens and love of vegetables.**
- 4. What President was in office the shortest amount of time?**
- 5. Who was the last President born in a log cabin?**
- 6. Whose Mother served in the Peace Corps?**
- 7. What did the middle initial "S" in Harry S. Truman stand for?**
- 8. What President had a Vice President born in the same state that he was?**
- 9. What President had both of his parents die by the time he was nine?**
- 10. Both of this Presidents parents were immigrants. Who was he?**
- 11. What two Presidents were sons of state governors?**
- 12. The Baby Ruth candy bar was named after his first daughter. Who was he?**
- 13. What Presidents owned racehorses?**
- 14. What President proposed and was President of a Peace Convention to try to head off the civil war?**
- 15. What President participated in the first cross-country truck convoy?**
- 16. What President hanged two men?**
- 17. What President worked as a deck hand on a Mississippi flatboat?**
- 18. What President served as a lifeguard several summers in his youth?**
- 19. What President was military governor of Tennessee?**
- 20. Who was President of Princeton University?**
- 21. Three Presidents died on July 4. Who are they?**
- 22. Two Presidents died at age 90. Who were they?**
- 23. Which President lived the longest? At what age did they die? Two Presidents are buried in Arlington Cemetery. Who are they?**

## **ANSWERS TO PRESIDENT'S TRIVIA**

- 1. William H. Taft – he weighed 332#**
- 2. Wm. Henry Harrison**
- 3. Thomas Jefferson – His personal library of 5000-6000 books were the foundation of the library of Congress**
- 4. Wm. Henry Harrison**
- 5. James A. Garfield**
- 6. Jimmy Carter – Lillian Gordy Carter joined the Peace Corp at age 68.**
- 7. His middle initial did not stand for anything**
- 8. Wm. Henry Harrison – he was born in VA as was John Taylor, his VP who lived in OH at the time of the election. The Constitution prohibits the Electoral College from electing a President and a VP from the same state.**
- 9. Herbert Hoover**
- 10. Andrew Jackson**
- 11. Wm. Henry Harrison's father signed the Declaration of Independence and was Governor of VA at the end of the Revolutionary War. John Tyler's father was also Governor of VA.**
- 12. Grover Cleveland – The Baby Ruth candy bar was named for his daughter Ruth. Contrary to popular belief that it was named for baseball great Babe Ruth.**
- 13. Andrew Jackson**
- 14. John Tyler**
- 15. Ike**
- 16. Grover Cleveland**
- 17. Abe Lincoln**
- 18. Ronald Reagan – he claims to have saved 77 people.**
- 19. Andrew Johnson 1862-1864.**
- 20. Woodrow Wilson**
- 21. Thomas Jefferson 1826, John Adams 1826, and James Monroe 1831.**
- 22. John Adams and Herbert Hoover**
- 23. Gerald Ford and Ronald Reagan age 93**
- 24. Wm. H. Taft and John Kennedy.**

## **HUMOR**

***My neighbor was working in his yard when he was startled by a late model car that came crashing through his hedge and ended in his front lawn.***

***He rushed to help an elderly lady driver out of the car and sat her down on a lawn chair.***

***He said with excitement, "you appear quite elderly to be driving."***

***"Well, yes, I am," she replied proudly. "I'll be 97 next month, and I am now old enough that I don't even need a driver's license anymore.***

***"The last time I went to my doctor, he examined me and asked if I had a driver's license. I told him yes and handed it to him. He took scissors out of the drawer, cut the license into pieces, and threw them in the waste basket, saying, 'You won't need this anymore," so I thanked him and left.***



***The husband leans over and asks his wife, "Do you remember the first time we had sex together over fifty years ago? We went behind the village tavern where you leaned against the back fence and I made love to you."***

***Yes, she says, "I remember it well."***

***OK, he says, "How about taking a stroll around there again and we can do it for old time's sake?"***

***"Oh Jim, you old devil, that sounds like a crazy, but good idea!"***

***A police officer sitting in the next booth heard their conversation and, having a chuckle to himself, he thinks to himself, I've got to see these two old-timers having sex against a fence. I'll just keep an eye on them so there's no trouble. So he follows them.***

***The elderly couple walks haltingly along, leaning on each other for support aided by walking sticks. Finally, they get to the back of the tavern and make their way to the fence The old lady lifts her skirt and the old man drops his trousers. As she leans against the fence, the old man moves in. Then suddenly they erupt into the most furious sex that the policeman has ever seen. This goes on for about ten minutes while both are making loud noises and moaning and screaming. Finally, they both collapse, panting on the ground.***

***The policeman is amazed. He thinks he has learned something about life and old age that he didn't know.***

***After about half an hour of lying on the ground recovering, the old couple struggle to their feet and put their clothes back on. The policeman, is still watching and thinks to himself, this is truly amazing; I've got to ask them what their secret is.***

***So, as the couple passes, he says to them, "Excuse me, but that was something else. You must've had a fantastic sex life together. Is there some sort of secret to this?"***

***Shaking, the old man is barely able to reply, "fifty years ago that wasn't an electric fence."***

***Do you remember what this is called?***





***On February 17<sup>th</sup>, we had as our guests Doug Bradford, USO Center Director, McCarran International Airport and Marianne Wojciechowicz, USO Programs Manager, McCarran International Airport. They shared with us many of the programs that the USO has for active and retired troops, and their families. Following are some pictures taken at the meeting.***

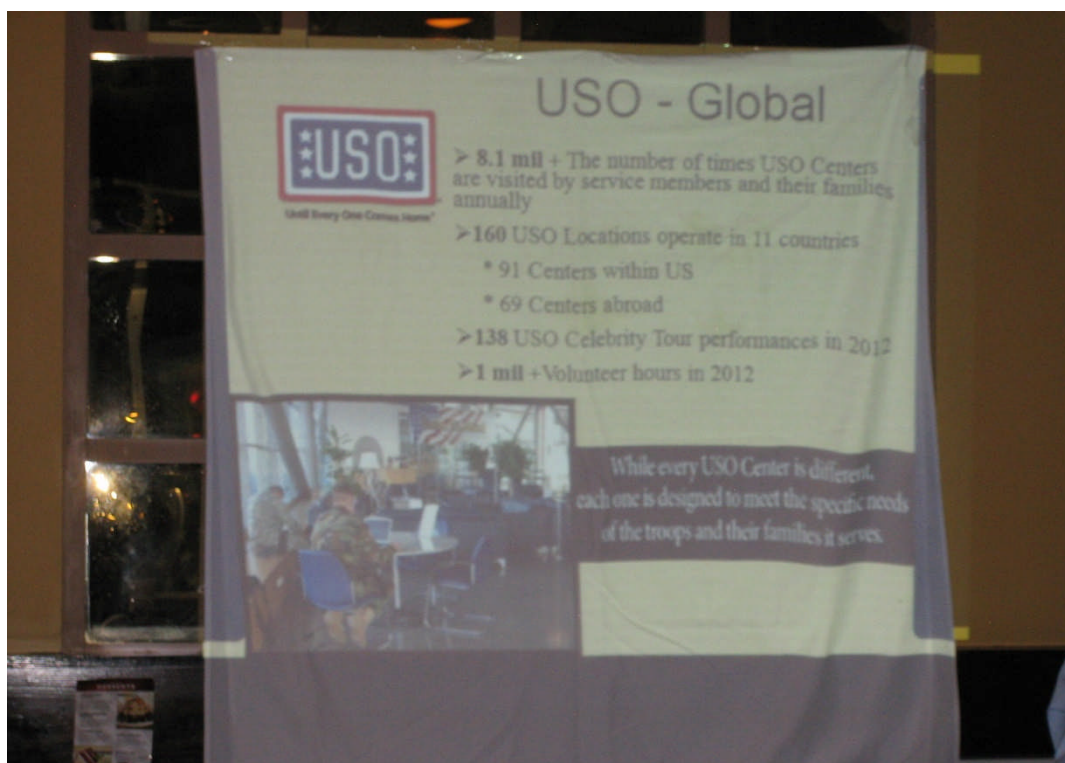




***Doug Bradford explaining some of the work the USO does.***



***The USO Mission***



***USO Global***



***USO Geographic Service Area***





***Doug, Marianne and Club Co-chair Leslie Schoenberg.***



***USO NV National Guard Sites***