

# MEN'S CLUB NEWS



BY HOWARD ARKIN

## Men's Club Guest Speaker: Author Saul Fathi

On Thursday, February 13, the North Shore Towers Men's Club was pleased to welcome Saul Fathi as the evening's guest speaker.

A noted author and lecturer, Saul was born in 1938 to a prominent Jewish family living in Baghdad, Iraq. Following the independence of Israel in 1948, a wave of anti-Semitism occurred in Iraq. Rather than face religious persecution, Saul's family chose to flee to this newly formed state. Saul was now embarking on the phase of his life that would eventually bring him "Full Circle," which would aptly be the title of one of the many books he has authored.

In Israel, he received an electrical engineering degree from the Israeli Airfare Academy of Aeronautics and practiced as a certified electrical engineer. 1958 found Saul in Brasilia, Brazil, where he started his own engineering business. It was then on to the United States on a student exchange visa where in return for a three-year army commitment, Saul received free college tuition and as well as United States citizenship. He eventually received

his degree from the University of Virginia and went on to work as an executive at several Fortune 500 companies. Saul retired in 2003 and now resides with his wife Rachelle in Central Islip.

Prior to beginning his lecture, Saul passed out papers highlighting 12 topics that he would be discussing. The subjects ranged from North Korea and South Korea, the Middle East, as well as the current Ukrainian situation. Given the time constraints of the lecture, it would seem impossible to cover all of those topics, and unfortunately it was.

Being a history buff myself, I found Saul's recollection of history to be quite accurate, yet some of his personal views to be rather controversial. His first view that was controversial was his argument that unification between North and South Korea would be mutually beneficial, but he places almost all of the responsibility on South Korea. Saul also expressed a controversial view regarding the territory of Crimea. He argues that because the Ukraine was part of the Soviet Union and Russia for 300



Saul Fathi at the Men's Club years that they should understand that Russia is entitled to Crimea. He also argues that the Ukraine should not be a member of either NATO or the EU. I think that most people in this country would disagree.

Saul proved to have a tremendous knowledge of history and provided a very stimulating lecture. I am sure that we will hear from him again in the future.

**FULL CIRCLE**

full circle

Please from Joseph and the Robins

A THE STORY

by Saul Fathi

You're stuck at home anyway, so why not read a good book? "Full Circle" received the 2005 Distinguished Honor Award from the Military Writers Society of America and can be ordered on Amazon. Here's an excerpt from one review:

"The author tells his story simply and honestly and this is the great appeal of the tale. Historical events are described in detail, both as they were observed and as they were experienced by the author. This book could be a point of education for thousands of people in this country alone."

- Amazon.com

For more info about the author and his other books, visit [saui-lasfathi.com](http://saui-lasfathi.com).

## Men's Breakfast Club Meetings Something to Look Forward To

About fifteen minutes after this picture was taken, NST Men's Club members began to arrive. It was only about one month ago, but it already feels like years. But in the "olden days" when restaurants were open and we were able to gather in groups, you could expect to hear conversations the likes of which have not been heard since those that were spoken at the Algonquin Round Table almost a century ago. Some of the discussions are enlightening, some are outrageous, and many are extremely humorous. Lots of them are bound to keep a smile on your face the entire day.



I'm extremely grateful for the opportunity to listen and learn from my well-informed and smart tablemates. This is what kept me coming back three days a week

and is one of the things I'm most looking forward to when our lives get back to normal (and they will).

If you are a member of the Men's Club and have not come down to any of the breakfasts, you've really been missing something. Please join us as soon as we can get together again. Don't let the picture of the empty table fool you--quite often,

seats have to be added. See you at Buffy's...someday soon...

### MEN'S CLUB EVENTS

The Men's club has canceled all events for April and until further notice until the coronavirus is under control. We value the safety of our members and we are better off safe than sorry. If you have any questions, please call Jerry Siegel at 347-235-4513. Be well.