

# MEN'S CLUB NEWS



BY HOWARD ARKIN

## Let's Zoom!

I began writing this back in April, which seems like an eon ago. No one knew what was going to happen next and we still don't, but there was one guarantee even then—you weren't going to be going to the Mets/Brewers or Yankee/Cincinnati Reds games that were scheduled for the following weekend.

Yes, it's been quite a lifestyle change for most everybody and quite an adjustment for me to be occupied without leaving my apartment. Far from being a cyber-genius, I was proud to be able to install the Zoom app on my computer, thus enabling me to join the Men's Club bi-weekly current events discussion (see sidebar below). That was a first for me as well as the North Shore Towers Men's Club. I also passed the time by

watching a short film on the North Shore Towers Channel (channel 995) celebrating the 40th anniversary of the completion of the three buildings in 1974. I am sure that if you get a chance to see it you will find it as interesting as I did.

As long as I can remember, it has been in my makeup to get up every day and go somewhere—anywhere. Well so much for that! I can't remember the last time I filled my gas tank. I'm told that gas prices are unbelievably low. I have ventured out to ShopRite a few times and have found the lines both outside the store and at the checkouts to be reasonably short and fast. The shelves were pretty well stocked as well.

I guess that is the case with me, television watching takes up a great deal of your time. I have become

addicted to the TCM film channel, especially those films made in the 1930s and 1940s. I saw a couple of Thin Man pictures last week and it seemed that everyone in them had Brooklyn accents except for William Powell, Myrna Loy and Asta. It's no wonder I like Thin Man films so much.

A few days ago I figured out that remaining in bed a few hours longer might reduce the normal time of my waking hours, but unfortunately I was up and ready to go (nowhere) at 7:00 a.m. A few minutes later I was at the TV clicking away between MSNBC and FOX News. Being politically correct, I won't divulge which of the two networks gets about 75% of my viewing time. Of course, Governor Cuomo at 11:00 a.m. and President Trump at 6:00 p.m. is "must watch" T.V., though at this point they are both becoming a bit repetitious. That goes for Dr. Fauci and Dr. Birx as well.

Another diversion from my new boring existence is my trusty laptop which until now had only been used to send and receive emails. The other day I discovered "Next Door Neighbor" and "Building Link" online and I must say there are some very strong opinions about various community topics on these two sites. I also find myself watching channel 998 (the lobby) and am pleased to see most people are adhering to the guidelines set forth and are wearing masks.

I've tried to make light of this horrible situation and the subsequent tragedies that we are now dealing with as part of our everyday life. It has sadly become our new normal. North Shore Towers has been hit hard, and we will probably be hit hard again. To quote an expression that we have heard all too often, "This too shall pass." And it shall.

## Zooming in to Men's Club Meetings



In April, Men's Club president Steve Auerbach introduced us to a new feature of the cyber age called Zoom. For those of you who are not familiar with Zoom, it is program which enables you to communicate with others via both video and audio on your phone iPad or laptop.

Our sessions usually last about an hour but longer periods are

available. About fifteen members have joined us so far but more will certainly be welcomed.

We meet every Monday and Thursday in your living room at 11 am. You will get to talk to and see some faces that you might still remember. Call Steve Auerbach at 917-434-4822 or Howard Arkin at 718-640-5776 for information about getting on to Zoom.

## IMAGINE

*Men's Club immediate past president Arnie Rabinowitz shares this message written two years ago for the club's dinner gala. It is especially timely now.*

When they sing John Lennon's song "Imagine," I thought of my role as president and our members:

Imagine: If we did not have the camaraderie

Imagine: If we did not have wonderful North Shore Towers community to have our meetings, breakfasts, programs, card games and social interactions.

Imagine: If we did not have the opportunity to make new friends and appreciate old friends.

Imagine: How grateful and thankful we need to be, and to continue being for having the ability to gather in an atmosphere of camaraderie and caring. we are truly grateful and blessed.

May we continue to grow as a group, continue to have fun



Arnie Rabinowitz

meetings, informative meetings, and enlightening meetings.

Most of all wishing you good health and the ability not to sweat the small stuff, don't get annoyed at trivia, hum the Beatles' song "Let it be, let it be."

Not everything is perfect, but it is by far better to enjoy than complain.