

Hobbyists General Meeting Minutes

September 4, 2025

The September Birthday slide is being displayed as Members arrived. 26 Hobbyists have birthdays in September, including 1 lifetime member Rob Mulligan, who will be turning 91 on September 6th.

Meeting called to order by President Don Peterfriend at 10:02AM.

Don welcomed all attendees with a thanks for attending the Meeting and hoped all had a pleasurable summer. Now that July and August's hiatus has passed, we can get back to all that Hobbyists Unlimited has to offer.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Bob Paoli. Bob then entertained the attendees with a tasteful joke, which all seemed to enjoy. Bob also spoke about the Monument Honoring Gold Star Families which the American Legion financed, located in Memorial Park at Van Neste Square (E. Ridgewood Ave.) installed a year ago. On September 28th at 7PM there will be a service honoring the Gold Star Families all are welcome.

President's Report- Don Peterfriend

- Upcoming Event- Trip to Woodloch Pines in PA. Departs from Graydon North Parking lot on Sept.10 in the AM. Contact Bob Sayegh.
- Encouraged all Members to participate in as many activities which the Club has to offer. Also urged all to take a Leadership Role by assisting/supporting and backing up our Activity Chairmen. This will provide Bench Strength for our Activities which is greatly needed given the recent retirement of a number of Chairmen. As stated in the President's September Meeting Invitation, there is a need for four new Chairs (Camera Club, Pickle Ball, Volunteer Services, Trips and Tours) as well as a Back Ups for Hobbyists Concerned and the Newsletter. Pleased to announce three of the positions have been filled. Alan Lo & Bob Becher (Pickle Ball), Tom Heed with Mark Singer assisting (Camera Club) and Joe Hammer (Volunteer Services) going above and beyond in stepping up for this Activity. There are still opportunities with Trips and Tours, Newsletter and Concerned Hobbyists. Historically Trips and Tours has been a mainstay of the organization with many Members and Spouses greatly benefiting from this Activity. Don urged Members to take leadership roles in these Activities.
- Need to keep our New Membership moving forward. We are having great success with New Members joining the Club thanks to Bob Mosher's efforts whereby there are 28 new Members since the beginning of the year. Please get a friend, relative or neighbor to join the Hobbyists.
- Urged Members to attend meetings and reach out to others to attend.
- Appreciate if members would remain after Meetings for Speaker Presentations which are interesting and informative.
- Thanks to our strong song writing Duo of Messrs: Boswell and Friedman there are three new releases on the website under Hobbyists Songs which are great.
- Nominating Committee which is headed by Bob Mosher is seeking Members to become an Officer/ Board Member. See Bob or Don Peterfriend if interested.
- Parking in the Church lot on the westside of South Van Dien is only in spaces marked "CH", all other spaces are for RWHS students for which they pay.

Hobbyist Concern- Peter Philip

- Louise Butler wife of long time Hobbyists and Past President John Butler, passed away on September 2, 2025. A Memorial Service will be held at Feeney's Funeral Home (232 Franklin Ave, Ridgewood) on

9/23/2025 from 5PM to 7PM. Additionally, Larry O'Donnell and Peter Weinstein's Son in Law, Brian Rudolph passed away during the summer. Also, Peter is seeking a Back-Up for his Chairman's Position. Position is not strenuous with minimal time requirements. Please contact him if you are interested.

Treasurer's Report – Gary Engelhardt (“Treasurer for Life”)

- Dues are commencing this month. CD of \$42,000 Rolled Over this month for 1 year generating \$120 in interest/month.

Membership – Bob Mosher

- We currently have 446 members, 72 which are Lifetime including those to be added during 2025, There are 88 members present today. The average age of the Hobbyists has declined from 81 to 80. Since the beginning of the year 30 new Applications have been received. A reminder, per the Hobbyists Constitution New Members may introduce prospective Applicants, however, the New Member must be a member for one year prior to Sponsoring an Applicant.
- Activity Chairs send Hobbyists pictures to Hobbyists66.com for presentation at monthly Meetings.
- New Inductee: Gene Brennan (Bob Paoli).

Speaker Program- Peter Weinstein

- Today's program presented by David Barclay of New Life Hearing
This program will enlighten us with the aspects of hearing aids and the need for many of us to wear them.

Activity Chairman Reports:

- Beer Appreciation – Rick Rosenthal: Next gathering is scheduled for September 11, 2025 6:30PM at Defiant Brewing 6 E. Dexter Plaza, Pearl River, NY.
- Bocce - Steve Friedman: Meets every Friday 9:30AM at Waldwick Boro Park. All members always welcome, show up, no talent required just bring a rake and lawn chair.
- Book Club - Jon Sterling: Meeting is scheduled for September 19, 2025 at 10AM in the FPC Library. The book will be “The Loves of Theodore Rossevelt” by Edwin O’Keefe. See website for further details. October 17th meeting will discuss “Longstreet Confederate General” moderated by Cliff Matthews.
- Bridge Club – Mike Murphy: Group has been growing with 5 or 6 tables, meeting at noon each Thursday at FPC.
- Chess Club -Rick Pascal: Meets Wednesdays at 10AM at the Church, with a refresher at 9:30AM. Contact Rich for a refresher.
- Camera Club – New Chair and Assistant: Tom Heed and Mark Singer with meetings to commence on October 27th and continuing every other fourth Monday of the month, thereafter at 2PM in the Church Auditorium (alternating with Military History). Program will continue with Giancarlo's traditions. Themes will be your best summer photos (trips/events), fall foliage (timely for late October) and a new idea (local high school/college football games). The games are terrific to photo with today's cameras/ phones and high school games often allow close sideline access. For additional details see Mark and Tom's Constant Contact email of 9/5/2025. Note: The Thayer Award Ceremony at West Point has been cancelled.

- Dances – Bill Healy: The Holiday Dance is scheduled for Monday December 15th at Seasons from 6PM to 10PM. Open Bar, Appetizer Buffet (hot and cold) and Sit-Down Dinner. Get your reservation now to save your table/seats for this annual event. See Bill’s Constant Contact email for details.
- Fishing- Peter Weinstein: Trip to Atlantic Highlands scheduled for Monday 9/8/2025 fishing for fluke on Captain John Koliass’ Party Boat. Contact Peter Weinstein (201-663-3536 or rodnreel44@aol.com) for details of future fishing adventures.
- Golf- Commissioners: Gary Don Tuesday Golf, Giancarlo Bisone Friday Golf and Mike Doherty Handicap Program. Upcoming Activities: Atlantic City Golf Trip-September 16th-18th, Fall Championship September 30th and Golf Luncheon October 28th. See website for all details. REMINDER: If you cancel be sure to get a substitute, notify the Golf Club of the change so you don’t get charged as well as Captain.
- Hiking- Ed Lundell: Hiking is doing well with all three programs (Tuesday Regular and Flex as well as Fridays at the Trail Head). The three-day trip is scheduled for October 8th-10th to the Berkshires with additional details to follow.
- Investment Club-Mike Flannery and Ron Reedy: Future meeting will be Wednesday October 22nd FPC and Zoom. Constant Contact email will be forthcoming with specifics.
- Military History – Tom Heed: Next meeting is scheduled for Monday September 29th at 2:00PM in the Church Auditorium with topic to be the Ukraine War. This Activity will occur every other fourth Monday of the Month at 2:00PM in the Church Auditorium (alternating with the Camera Club).
- Movie Lovers- Dick Oswald: Ridgewood Village Hall Senior Lounge Tuesday September 16th at 1:30PM. The movie will be “House of Games” (1987, 1hr 40 min). Directed by David Mamet, starring Joe Mantegna and Lindsey Crouse (Mamet’s wife). Roger Ebert gave this movie his highest rating of four stars. Review website for details.
- Music Lovers – Jim McKeown: Next program is scheduled for Friday September 12th at 10:00AM in the Church Auditorium. Sean Flangan will present “Silly Songs”, the 2nd in the series of Comedy in Music. Also, there will be a Choral Music presentation on 9/24/2025 in the RW Library at 1PM.
- Newsletter – Rick Pascal: Next edition (Fall Newsletter) in process for mid/late September issuance. Activity Chairman kindly forward information and photos to Rick Pascal no later than September 9th Rick thanked Bill Carbone for his support over the years. Rick is seeking a replacement for Bill to assist with the newsletter indicating it only requires 1-2 hours over three months.
- Pickleball – Alan Lo and Bob Bedcher new Co-Chairs: Outdoor pickleball will continue through October. Outdoor is played at Saddle River County Park in Rochelle Park on Mondays and Thursdays from 8:30AM to 11:00AM. Contact Alan or Bob for further information.
- ROMEO- Cliff Matthews: Next lunch will be September 19,2025 Noon at Justin’s Restaurant (234 Lafayette Ave, Hawthorne, NJ). Kindly advise Cliff no later than Noon on September 16th to reserve your seat and allow him to have a good headcount for the reservation.
- Trip and Tours- Bob Paoli: Need a new Chair to replace Bob Sayegh who after many years of running this activity has decided to retire. Contact Don Peterfriend if you are interested.
- Volunteer Services- Joe Hammer: Joe has stepped up for George Millington who is in rehab. Program is active with 13 regulars going 2 times per month to Eva’s Village in Paterson. The group meets at 10AM at Graydon North Parking Lot and departs to Eva’s Village to set up tables and serve lunches at noon as well as 1PM to homeless and working poor. Generally, the group finishes around 1:30PM and is back in Ridgewood by 2PM.
- Wine Appreciation-Bob Stevenson: Luncheon will be Friday September 26th noon at Andrea’s Restaurant (20 East Prospect St., Waldwick). Contact Bob at 201-615-1202 to sign up.

- Wine Making- Paul Richert: The Group will next be Grape crushing on October 17TH and pressing on October 25th our Montepulciano 2025 at The Wine Experience in Tinton Falls. Cars leave Graydon Pool North Parking Lot at 9AM sharp generally returning around 1PM. Come out and enjoy a good time.
- World Affairs- Don Togneri: Next Meeting is scheduled for September 10th at 2PM Zoom only.

Chair needed for Trips and Tours as well as backups for Hobbyists Concerned (Peter Philip) and the Newsletter (Rick Pascal) Chairs. Someone needs to step-up for these Activities (see President Don Peterfriend, Peter Philip or Rick Pascal)

Other Business: None

Business Meeting Concluded at 10:55AM

Today's program: Presented by David Barclay of New Life Hearing

Respectfully submitted by,
Chuck Woehrle, Executive Secretary