HOBBYISTS GENERAL MEETING MINUTES – November 12, 2026

Birthdays: The November birthday slide was displayed as members arrived. 41 Hobbyists have birthdays in November, including 10 lifetime members: George Skau (91); Edmund Zelhof (90); Roberty Humphreys (94); Albert Cunniffe (91); Ido Rossi (92); John Randolph (90); Raymond Wittke (91); Ferdinand Raphael (92); Kevin McDermott (91); and Stanley Peck (90). Three members are celebrating their birthdays today, November 12: Albert Cunniffe, Ido Rossi and Michael Pasuco.

Meeting called to order by President Peter Weinstein at 10:06 a.m.

Pledge of Allegiance: Bill Healy led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Hobbyists Concerned – Peter Philip

- We lost 5 Hobbyists during the month of October: Jack Geraghty; Frank Dobrowolski; Dick Ramge; Jerry O'Callahan; and Wayne Lehr
- Meryl Sachs, the wife of Hobbyist Joel Sachs, also passed away during October.

Treasurer's Report –Gary Engelhardt

- Our CD earned $98 in interest during the past month.
- Members who haven't yet paid their dues for 2027 are encouraged to do so soon.

Membership – Steve Fonder

- There are 71 members present at this morning's meeting
- As of today, there are 435 total Hobbyists members, including 77 life members.
- Two new members were inducted today: Kerry Cavazzi (introduced by Don Dexter); and Brian Konikoff (introduced by Les Weiss).

Speaker – Steve Friedman

- Today's presentation is about Villa Marie Claire, a residential hospice in Saddle River that is owned and operated by Holy Name Hospital.
- Dr. Charles Vialotti is the Resident Medical Director and Patrick Maron is the Administrative Director.

Election of Hobbyist Officers for 2027 – Bob Mosher

- Nominees for election are:
  President: Steve Friedman
  First Vice President: Chuck Woehrle
  Second Vice President: Dick Boswell
  Secretary: Scot Feld
  Treasurer: Gary Engelhardt
  Sponsor Representative: Lew Dickinson
- Based on votes from members present in today's meeting, and those who had already voted online, the election of all of the above nominees is confirmed

HOBBYISTS GENERAL MEETING MINUTES – November 12, 2026

Activity Chairman Reports:

- Beer Appreciation – Ed Collins, standing in for Rick Rosenthal: Next gathering of Beer Appreciation is tonight, November 12, at Seven Lakes Station, 80 Orange Turnpike in Sloatsburg. Please contact Ed Collins if you plan to attend.
- Bocce – Steve Friedman: Tomorrow's bocce session (Nov 13) is cancelled due to forecasted rain. Weather permitting, the final session of the fall season for the Bocce group will be next Friday, November 20, from 9:30 am to 11:30 am, at Borough Park in Waldwick. If you are not already on the mailing list, please contact Steve Friedman.
- Book Club – Pat Donohue: The Book Club meets on the third Friday of each month at 10:00 am in the church library. The next meeting will be on Friday November 20. The book being discussed is "Theo of Golden" by Allen Levi. We will not be meeting in December but will get word out about the book we plan to read for our meeting in January.
- Bridge – Mike Murphy: The Bridge Group has been growing by leaps and bounds. We have 30 registered members and are now up to 5 tables of regular players. We play each Thursday at noon in the rear of the church auditorium. Next week (Nov 19) we're having our annual luncheon at the Ramsey Golf Club. If you are interested in joining the bridge group, please find our contact information on our Hobbyist web page.
- Camera Club – Tom Heed: The Camera Club will not meet in December. The next meeting will be in January. Details will be sent out in advance of that meeting.
- Cribbage – Don Dexter: The Cribbage group meets the first and third Thursday of each month at 1:00 pm at Don Dexter's house. All members are welcome to come and try it out. Please contact Don Dexter if you are interested.
- Dinner Dance – Bill Healy: Our Holiday Dinner Dance will take place on Monday December 14 at Seasons in Washington Township. Registrations are going well. We already have enough attendees to satisfy our commitment to Seasons, but we have plenty of room for more people. If you would like to attend, send an email to Bill Healy. Checks at $225 per couple should be sent to Gary Engelhardt.
- Fishing – Peter Weinstein: A full strike sport fishing charter for 5 will be going out Monday November 16 from Raritan Marina, fishing for stripers.
- Golf – Paul Fazio: The golf group had another great year. This was our third consecutive year with at least 110 Hobbyist golfers. We play at courses all over the metropolitan area. We just had our 14th trip to Atlantic City, attended by 36 golfers. We had 4 golf tournaments this year. At this year's club championship, Jim Harte shot a 73 (one over par), handily beating some other excellent golfers who shot in the low 80s. The golf lunch was attended by 61 golfers. Every attendee went home with almost a dozen golf balls, courtesy of Gary Engelhardt. There were also lots of other prizes awarded at the lunch. With the outdoor season now finished, we have moved indoors to play simulated golf at the Players Club in Paramus. The cost is $38 per round. If you are interested in joining, please find our contact information on our Hobbyist web page.
- Military History – Tom Heed and Walter Perog – Our next meeting will be on November 23 at 2 pm in the church auditorium. The topic will be the American Revolution in New Jersey, focusing on three important winter encampments. At the meeting, Walter will also present a talk on "The Bridge That Saved the Nation". Walter brought flyers for an event "Retreat to Victory: Washington leads troops over the New Bridge" which will take place the day before, on Sunday November 22 from 10 am – 2 pm, sponsored by the Bergen County Historical Society. The event will be held at Historic New Bridge Landing, 1201 Main St., River Edge, NJ.
- Music Lovers – Jim McKeown: The next meeting of Music Lovers will be tomorrow, Friday November 13 at 10:00 am in the church auditorium. The program will be "Is Nothing Sacred:

The Third Volume of Hobbyists Songs", featuring parody songs composed by Steve Friedman and Dick Boswell.

- ROMEO – Cliff Matthews: The next ROMEO lunch will take place on Friday November 20 at noon at Fiona's 118 Godwin Avenue, Midland Park. Please send an email to Cliff Matthews if you would like to attend.
- Trips and Tours – Bob Wong: Our trip is on for next week to see the Holiday Train Show at the New York Botanical Gardens, including lunch at the Gardens. The date is Thursday November 19. An email with details will go out this weekend to those who have signed up. If anybody has not yet signed up but is interested in going, contact Bob Wong by email or text. We are continuing to pursue a trip for next spring to the Culinary Institute in Hyde Park. We are also looking into a trip to see the New York Auto Show at the Javits Center in NYC at the end of March. Our Trips & Tours Committee is open to suggestions from members. If a member has an idea to link a tour of some kind to another Hobbyist activity (e.g. photography), the committee could work with you to explore that idea.
- Wine Appreciation – Bob Stevenson: Our next WAG lunch will take place on December 11th at noon at Aldo's, 640 Wyckoff Ave in Wyckoff. Please contact Bob Stevenson or Alex Baron if you are interested in attending.
- Winemaking – Paul Richert: In late October, 19 members of our winemaking group drove down to The Wine Experience in Tinton Falls, NJ, to crush grapes for our newest wine, a Sangiovese. This will be our 25th 60 gallon barrel since our club began making wine. Our new Sangiovese tested at an unusually high sugar content, which means that the finished wine promises to have a strong alcohol content. We were pleased to learn that our last two wines (a Chilean blend, and a Montepulciano) each won a gold medal at the Wine Experience's recent awards dinner.

The business meeting concluded at 10:55 a.m.

November program: Dr. Charles Vialotti and Patrick Maron spoke to our group about the Villa Marie Claire Hospice.

Respectfully submitted by:
Dick Boswell, Secretary