

September 2025

Fall Edition
Officers for 2024

Vol. 38 No. 3

President – **Don Peterfriend**

1st Vice President – **Peter Weinstein**

2nd Vice President – **Steve Friedman** Secretary – **Chuck Woehrle**

Treasurer – **Gary Engelhardt** Church Liaison – **Lew Dickinson**

Sponsored by the First Presbyterian Church, Ridgewood, NJ

<http://www.hobbyists-unlimited.com>



Club Activities

Membership Committee: Chairman **Bob Mosher**, 201-689-9651, rmosher895@aol.com, Constant Contact **Ed Daly**, Roster Data **Steve Hochman**, Excel Spreadsheet Data **Steve Friedman**, Fees / Dues **Gary Engelhardt**, Table Assistants **Steve Rubin**, **Paul Daniele**.

Welcome New Member: **Gene Brennan**

Membership Numbers are, in general, a constant variable.

Current Membership is 443, representing an overall increase of 11.

The average age of dues-paying members is 78. There are 75 Life Members, including those who will turn 90 in 2026, an increase of 5. The Average age, including Life Members, is 80.

New Member totals for the past three years are:

2023 = 18, Membership Sponsored = 4

2024 = 36, Membership Sponsored = 6

2025 = 31, with four months remaining

Membership Committee Sponsored Applicants this year are eleven. These applicants join various activity clubs and end up being sponsored by a club member from that activity. As a result of this temporary sponsorship process, our average age continues to lessen, mostly because retired applicants start looking for something to replace work at an earlier age and discover Hobbyists.

The occupations of the last ten Membership Committee Sponsored Applicants are as follows: Management Consultant, Doctor, Engineer, Controller, Psychotherapist, Creative Director, Finance Executive (Owner), Lawyer, Portfolio Manager, Engineer.

We want to remind all members that they should check the roster for their photo and their information, as shown. If a photo is needed or any change of information is required, please submit it to: hobbyistsmembership@gmail.com. The Membership Committee is asking for an additional “Greeter” at the membership table during the monthly business meeting between the hours of 9:00 and 10:00 a.m. Bob Mosher, Membership Committee Chairman, appreciates and thanks the staff of the Membership Committee, who do a fantastic job at the membership table, recording members into Constant Contact, the Roster, and assisting the Membership Committee overall.

Archive - Joe Suplicki, 201-316-3262, jssuplicki@aol.com.

Audio/Visual - Bob Mosher, 201-689-9651, rmosher895@aol.com, **Ed Daly**, 201-447-4603, eddaly386@yahoo.com.

Beer Appreciation – Rick Rosenthal, rickcrosenthal@icloud.com, 201-675-1870.

Blackjack - Ray Litwitz, 973-714-9019, raylitwitz@gmail.com. Blackjack meets on the second and fourth Thursday. The eight players gather to play at various members' homes on a rotating schedule. There are subs who attend when needed. It is a friendly game. If interested in joining the group, please contact Ray.

Bocce - Steve Friedman, 201-916-6079, stefri4@yahoo.com. The bocce boys continue to play every Friday from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at Borough Park in Waldwick. We're always looking for more players! The only experience you need is the ability to roll a ball. We determine teams by the luck of a draw each week. It's always a fun morning. And bring a lawn chair so you can sit when it's not your turn. Join us!

Book Club - Peter Philip 201-666-0105, pjphilip37@optonline.net, **Jon Sterling**, jbsterning@optonline.net. We meet on the third Friday of the month at 10 a.m. at the church.

Bowling - Gary Don, 201-574-3506, garydon3@verizon.net, **Don Peterfriend**, 201-739- 8672, dpeterfriend@yahoo.com, **Mark Singer**, 201-446-6809, msinger@ramapo.edu, **Bill Raftery**, 201-527- 8585, mrbill357@verizon.net, **Bob Mosher**, 201-615-5603, rmosher895@aol.com. The new season of the Hobbyists Bowling League commenced on September 3 (the Wednesday after Labor Day) with our usual 3 weeks of practice bowling, before the actual season starts on September 24. This is due to other Hobbyist events taking place which a lot of our bowlers attend. Because of increased interest from our members, we added an additional team to the League this year, for a total of 15 teams and 60 regular bowlers. The team rosters and lane schedules are currently posted on our website. The League bowls for 35 weeks through the end of April. If you have any interest in joining us as a substitute for this year, please contact any member of the Committee.

Bridge - Mike Murphy, Chairman 201-334-7284, mgmclbchp@gmail.com. **Ray Huebon**, 201-652- 4586, rhuebon@yahoo.com, Thursdays, 11:45 a.m. in the East Room of the church. Duplicate bridge play concludes no later than 4 p.m. We're still looking to add new players, so come on down and join us.

Camera Club – Tom Heed, Chairman 845-534-8695, theed@ramapo.edu and **Mark Singer**, 201-446-6809, msinger@ramapo.edu, are planning alternate bi-monthly meetings on October 27; December 22; February 23; April 27 all at 2 p.m. in the Church Auditorium. For the first meeting, please submit up to ten photographs in advance to Tom Heed. Themes: your best summer photos (trips/events), fall foliage (timely for late October), and a new idea—local high

school or college football. These games are terrific to photograph with today's cameras and phones; high schools often allow close sideline access. Our meetings are friendly, well-organized sessions allowing us to share our interest in photography, show our work, and learn from each other. You're welcome to attend whether or not you submit photos. We also plan photo meetups. Details to follow. If you're interested in receiving future notices from the camera Club, email Mark Singer

Chess Club- Rick Pascal, Chairman, 201-208-7191; rickpas@optonline.net. **Jeff Kresky**, 201-965-5078, kreskyj@wpunj.edu. Our chess club continues to thrive and grow, with new members joining and expanding our roster. Those who haven't played "in years" as many have stated, have improved their chess skills and have begun to enjoy the game and its challenges, adding to its rewards. No matter your skill level or experience, you're welcome to join us. Individual lessons will be accommodated for those interested in learning the game. Contact Rick Pascal for more information regarding these sessions. During July and August, we continued playing outdoors at the Bergen County Park in Ridgewood.



Enjoying the weather are Bill Rooney, Stu Levine, Paul Nicolardi, Rick Pascal, Jeff Kresky, Enzo Magnano, Kevin Swisher.

Computer Club – There is interest in resurrecting the Computer Club. Please contact **Bob Stevenson**, 201-615-1202, robtstevenson@hotmail.com, to share information and if you would like to chair the activity.

Cribbage – Some Hobbyists have expressed interest in pursuing this activity. If anyone would like to organize it, contact **Bob Mosher** at rmosher895@aol.com. We have the cribbage boards.

Dances - **Bill Healy**, 201-652-5868, whealy3741@aol.com, **Gary Engelhardt**, 201-670-9185, garye569@msn.com, **Bob Mosher**, 201-615-5603, rmosher895@aol.com. The Holiday Dinner Dance Gala Event will take place on Monday evening, December 15, at Season's in Washington Township.

Fishing - **Gene Boyle**, 973-703-9065, gbrealty@optonline.net, **Peter Weinstein**, 201-663-3536, rodnreel44@aol.com.

Gourmet Cooking - **Jim McKeown**, 201-327-3411, jimmckeown@optonline.net.

Our gourmet chefs meet semi-annually at the home of one of the members. Each participant is responsible for cooking his assigned menu item. The menu is paired with appropriate wine selections.

Golf Committee - **Gary Engehardt, Gary Don, Paul Fazio, Mike Doherty, Giancarlo Bisone, Paul Richert, Charlie Tuch, Len Manis, Stu French, Sid Sobel, George Giaquinto, Don Peterfriend, Ed Dowd.** The 2025 golf season is winding down. A few important events include our 13th annual Atlantic City Golf Trip September 16-18, followed by our last tournament on September 30, which will determine the club champion. The golf committee wants to thank our 110 registered golfers for another banner year. On a final note, our end of the season golf luncheon is scheduled for October 28 at Fiona's restaurant. Please go to our golf page on the Hobbyist website for information on all these events.

Habitat for Humanity - **Rich Edelman**, 973-389-3536, edelmanr@optonline.net and **Ed Daly**, 201-447-4603 or cell, 201-960-7069, eddaly386@yahoo.com.

Hiking - **Ed Lundell**, 612-865-5381, edlundell4@gmail.com. After meeting at Graydon Pool, the Hiking Club visits local sites each Tuesday and Friday morning.

Hobbyists Concerned - **Peter Philip**, 201-666-0105, pjphilip37@optonline.net.

George Millington is still in rehab at the Helen Hayes Rehab Center.

Mike Murphy is recovering at home following a serious fall.

We are saddened at the loss of the following Hobbyists and/or family members:

Hobbyist **Mark McCrodden** passed on June 28 after battling cancer.

Hobbyist **Larry O'Donnell** passed in July.

Hobbyist **Joe Lebert's** grand-daughter died in a car accident.

Brian Rudolph, son-in-law of Hobbyist **Peter Weinstein**, passed on August 28.

Louise Butler, wife of Hobbyist **John Butler**, passed on September 2.

Investments – **Ron Reedy**, ronaldreedy@gmail.com, **Mike Flannery**, mikevflannery59@gmail.com. Future meetings may include the **Connections** group who have expressed interest in this activity.

Italian Club - **Don Togneri**, 201-445-0679, dj2dm2@hotmail.com. Meetings are on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month at 2 p.m. at the church.

Lunch Bunch Sunday - **Bob Sayegh**, 201-670-6010, bobsay14@gmail.com.

Military History - Tom Heed, 845-534-8695, theed@ramapo.edu. The Military History Club will resume its sessions this fall under a new schedule, meeting every other month. Our opening session, on September 22, will once again focus on the ongoing war in Ukraine—a conflict we have followed for too many years now. We will review the shifting front lines, assess casualties on both sides, and pay special attention to the continuing evolution of military technology, particularly drones.

At our first session, we will also discuss my suggestion for a new theme for the year: comparative assessments of key battles in history. For example, how does Jackson's Valley Campaign compare to Rommel's invasion of France? Such comparisons can be a powerful vehicle for deepening our understanding of military history, and I look forward to hearing members' interest in pursuing this approach.

Looking ahead, our meetings for the coming fiscal year are scheduled November 24, January 26, March 23, and May 25.

Movie Lovers - Dick Oswald, 201-447-4053, ddoswald@verizon.net. Movies are shown from September to June on the second Tuesday of each month at 1:30 p.m. in the Senior Lounge of the Ridgewood Village Hall. The movie group began the fall season with "House of Games" (1987, Joe Mantegna, Lindsay Crouse), to be followed by "Mr. Roberts (1955, Henry Fonda, James Cagney). Then we will compare two in a row starring Charles Laughton and Elsa Lanchester: "The Private Life of Henry VIII" (1933) and "Rembrandt" (1936). Attendance varies, usually ranging between five and twenty participants. In this age of DVDs and streaming, why bother to leave home to watch a movie? Because your enjoyment is enhanced by sharing the experience with others and hearing their opinions in the following discussion following the films! Hope to see more of you there soon.

Music Lovers - Jim McKeown, 201-327-3411, jimmckeown@optonline.net. Very successful programs were presented this Winter/ Spring and are planned now and into the Early Fall. We were happy to bring you Song Parodies, Jazzy Ladies--Ella & Sarah; Classical Potpourri II {They Died Too Young}; Twelve Great Choral Pieces; and Broadway Blockbusters--Part One. Coming this September will be Comedy in Music. Broadway Blockbusters--Parts 2 and 3 will follow, and there's more in the pipeline. Welcome back everyone!!!! Second Friday, 10 a.m. at the church.

Pickleball – Alan Lo, 908-447-833, funnycpa@aol.com. So, what exactly is pickleball? It a combination of tennis, ping pong and racquetball. It is played on a court ¼ the size of a regulation tennis court. It has grown exponentially throughout the country especially with seniors. It is easier on the body, requires less running and is much easier to learn than tennis. To join the group, you need to go to the App store and download the **Team Reach App** for your phone. Then use the following code **Hobby-Pickle** to join the group. There you can use the calendar to acknowledge that you will attend a particular event. You can also post questions and get quick answers or ask players if they are interested in playing on a particular day. Looking forward to making pickleball a great sport at the Hobbyists.

Picnic - **Cliff Matthews**, 201-447-9040, cematthhews0914@gmail.com; **Ed Daly**, 201-447-4603. More than 40 people were at Graydon enjoying the Putting Contest, Corn Hole game, and socializing with each other. Of course, there was the Ice Cream Special - All You Can Eat - which was donated by Van Dykes again this year! Janet Daly and Steve Steiner were the Putting Contest winners.



Pinochle - **Jim Atieh**, 201-315-5346, atiehlj1@verizon.net. We meet every Monday & Thursday in the clubhouse at the Hovnanian condos in Mahwah just off Route 17 North. We play from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. with a break for lunch. We are more than happy to teach anyone how to play.

Poker - **Dan Wolf**, 201-825-7769, danlwolf@optonline.net. We meet every Friday at members' homes. On alternate Fridays we play Texas Hold'em then Hi-Lo Poker the following week. Hold'em is limited to eight players due to homeowner's table size. Hi-Lo Poker is limited to seven players.

ROMEO - **Cliff Matthews**, 201-447-9040, cematthhews0914@gmail.com. ROMEO meets at different moderately priced BYOB places on the third Friday of the month and is a pleasant way to meet and socialize with fellow Hobbyists.

Science and Technology – **Elliot Ratchik**, 914-420-4330, eratchik@gmail.com.

The Science and Computer club will continue this fall every third Wednesday beginning at 2 p.m. via ZOOM. We are looking for someone to replace Elliot as chairman of this activity. He will work with any replacement who is willing to serve and save this activity.

Tennis - **Al Ianacone**, 973-650-1738, acianacone@gmail.com, **Bob Kozar**, bkozar1@aol.com. Tennis is played at the Fairlawn Racquet Club on Mondays from 12 noon until 1:30 p.m. Cost is \$15 per session.

Trips & Tours, Day – We are seeking a chairman for this activity. In the interim, please contact either **Bob Sayegh**, 201-670-6010, bobsay14@gmail.com or **Bob Paoli**, 201- 445-1738, bobpaoli@verizon.net.

The Volunteer Service Club – Joe Hammer, 201-675-0651, joseph.hammer@icloud.com. The club has been traveling to Eva's Village in Paterson on two Tuesdays per month to aid in the set-up, service and clean-up of two seatings of a hot, nutritious lunch for the homeless and working people in need in the surrounding area. Fourteen Hobbyists participate as active members of the Club with six to seven of us going to Eva's on a given Tuesday.

Walking – **Alan Stein**, 201-447-4235, stampmaven1@verizon.net, **Mark Singer**, 201-446-6809, msinger@ramapo.edu. The Thursday Walking Group continues to thrive, walking from the Ridgewood Duck Pond to the Dunkerhook area and back on the Saddle River Trail, a distance of four miles. The walk entails both good exercise and brilliant conversation. We encourage more walkers to join us.

Wine Appreciation – Bob Stevenson, 201-615-1202, robstevenson@hotmail.com. The Wine Appreciation Group (WAG), a long-standing Hobbyist activity, meets for lunch and wine tasting on a bi-monthly cycle, excluding July and August. Our luncheons are typically scheduled for the fourth Friday of every other month. The chairman and a committee composed of **Jim Cinquina** and **Jerry Schott** select an upscale Bergen County BYOB venue and negotiate a custom menu

Winemaking – Paul Richert, 201-967-1347, phriche7314@gmail.com. In July the wine makers bottled our 60-gallon barrel (24 cases) of our Cabernet Sauvignon and Barbera blend that was started in October 2024. In October 2025 we will crush and press our new wine with Montepulciano grapes from California.

World Affairs - Don Togneri, 908-347-2820, dj2dm2@hotmail.com. ZOOM meetings only. Second Wednesday of each month at 2:00 p.m. Contact Don for ZOOM link.

Kudos & Congratulations

Congratulations to Steve & Eileen Friedman on the marriage of their daughter, Jennifer

From the Editor

Welcome back! We're into a new season for Hobbyists fun and games. While we're enjoying our return, let's all take time to appreciate the time we have together. Be kind, be generous, be thoughtful, be gracious. At this time, we want to welcome Steve Rubin to the Newsletter Committee. Steve will be replacing the work that has been done for so many seasons by Bill Carbone, who performed a yeoman's job as Compositor, laying out the articles and photographs

we've all enjoyed these many years. Bill was instrumental in helping me take over Chairmanship of the Newsletter following Mark Singer's "movin' on up" on the Executive Committee. I am ever grateful to Bill for his guidance and friendship. He will remain on the committee until the end of this calendar year as an advisor. For the next Newsletter in December, I'll be asking Committee Chairmen to submit their entries directly to Steve Rubin, with a copy to Rick Pascal.

Know that we're all getting older, slower and, hopefully, wiser. With that in mind, here are some thoughts on aging:

"Old age is like a plane flying through a storm. Once you are aboard, there is nothing you can do about it." (Golda Meir)

"The older I get, the more clearly I remember things that never happened." (Mark Twain)

"At age 20, we worry about what others think of us... at age 40, we don't care what they think of us... at age 60, we discover they haven't been thinking of us at all." (Ann Landers)



Hobbyists Alert

- If you ignore robo-calls from a Caller ID that you don't recognize, you may be missing important calls from the Hobbyists. The service we use is **CALLING POST**, although at times the calling number with an area code of 405 is used instead. So, unless you have voicemail or an answering machine, we suggest you take the call.
- Members are urged to display their Hobbyists dashboard pass when parking on General meeting days.
- We encourage Hobbyists to attend the programming following the General Meetings.

NOTICE: Please pay your 2026 dues, which are due now.

- Please make sure you discard any coffee cups, plastic bottles, and paper wrappers in the appropriate receptacles in the church auditorium after the General Meeting.

Hobbyists News Staff

Rick Pascal, Chairman/Editor, 201-208-7191, rickpas@optonline.net; **Bill Carbone**, Composition/Layout, 201-652-6693, becarbo@optonline.net; **Steve Rubin**, Composition/Layout, 201-390-1220, srubin226@gmail.com; **Ed Daly**, Proofing, 201-447-4603, eddaly386@yahoo.com; **Mark Singer**, Proofing, 201-446-6809, msinger@ramapo.edu.