



Hobnobbing with

Founded
1966

HOBBYISTS (HJ) UNLIMITED

Officers for 2024 President – **Mark Singer** 1st Vice President – **Don Peterfriend**

2nd Vice President – **Peter Weinstein** Secretary – **Steve Friedman**

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

Sponsored by the First Presbyterian Church, Ridgewood, NJ

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

Club Activities

Membership - **Bob Mosher**, 201-689-9651, rmosher895@aol.com, **Steve Hochman**, 201-424-9701, shochman@gmail.com.

Welcome New Members:

Gary Keller

Frank Tercovich

Mike Hurd

Kevin Wada

Ron Reedy

Bill Rooney

John Keller

Rich Kuller

Art White

We currently have 399 members, 45 are Lifetime members who have been blessed by achieving the age of 90. We are always seeking new members and you are encouraged to sponsor a friend, relative, or even a new acquaintance. **Bob** has printed Hobbyists Unlimited business cards that you can hand out. Ask for them at the next general meeting on April 4th.

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.

Blackjack - **Ray Litwitz**, 973-714-9019, reljr@optonline.net Blackjack meets on the second and fourth Thursday at noon. The players gather to play at various members' homes. It is a friendly game. If interested in joining the group, please contact Ray for more information.

Bocce - **Steve Friedman**, 201-916-6079, stefri4@yahoo.com. Every Friday in March (including Good Friday) from 9:30 to 11:30 am at the Fair Lawn Superdome on Morlot Avenue at Banta Place in Fair Lawn. Cost is \$15.

Book Club - Peter Philip 201-666-0105, pjphilip37@optonline.net, **Jon Sterling**, jbsterling@optonline.net. Third Friday of the month, 10 a.m. at the Church. The next Book Club meeting is scheduled for **FRIDAY MARCH 15, 2024, at 10:00am** in the Church Library. We will discuss “Four Poems.” **Jon Sterling** will lead it. Looking ahead, the April book will be “The Wager” and the discussion to be led by **Cliff Matthews**.

Bowling - Gary Don, 201-574-3506, garydon3@verizon.net, **Charlie Tuch**, 973-636-9211, clt976@optonline.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 King Pins (**Joe Savitscus, Rich Krakowski, Dan Wolf, Paul Richert**) won the second session. The third session is under way.

Bridge - Ray Chuebon, 201-652-4586, rchuebon@yahoo.com, **Mike Murphy**, 201-334-7284, mgmclbchp@gmail.com, and **Jim Deaver**, 201-666-2066, jamesmdeaver@gmail.com. Thursdays, 11:45 a.m. in the East Room of the church. Duplicate bridge play concludes no later than 4 p.m.

Camera Club – Dennis Portsmore, 201-378-8047, dportsmo@gmail.com, will be heading up a committee that includes **Tom Heed, Bill Reade**, and **Scott Abbey**. The Camera Club, with the Hikers and Walking Groups, has organized an Urban Walk and Photo Shoot on the New York City High Line on **TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 2024**. Contact **Dennis** or **Giancarlo Bisone** if you plan to attend.

Chess Club- Rick Pascal, rickpas@optonline.net, 201-791-9526 or 201-208-7191, **Jeff Kresky**, kreskyj@wpunj.edu, 201-965-5078. Our chess enthusiasts continue to meet on Wednesday mornings from 10 a.m. to noon at the church. Players at all levels of proficiency are encouraged to participate. We don't rank players, nor do we keep a record of wins and losses. We're there to have a good time, socialize, and exercise our brains. We have several chess sets on hand, but you're welcome to bring one of your own. Even if you haven't played chess for thirty years (as some of you have indicated), we're happy to provide instructions and help refresh your memory.

Cribbage – Bob Mosher. Thursdays from 1-3 p.m. at the church. If interested contact Bob at rmosher895@aol.com

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 Spring Dance will be held on **MONDAY MAY 13, 2024** at Seasons in Washington Township. Cost is \$205 per couple. It will have a 1950's/1960's theme.

Eva's Village - Dave Smilon, 201-962-5723, davesmilon@yahoo.com. The Community Kitchen at Eva's Village on Main Street in Paterson, NJ is a charitable organization that provides meals to those in need. We assist twice a month setting up and serving lunch to about

300 people. **George Millington** is coordinator. Between four and six Hobbyists travel to Paterson-Eva's Kitchen twice a month on Tuesdays to set up, serve and clean up for two lunch sittings: noon and 1 p.m. Our time commitment door to door is from 10 a.m. to 2:15 p.m.

Fellowship Luncheon – Dave Smilon – will be held **THURSDAY APRIL 18, 2024** at the Church. It is for all Hobbyists. Cost is \$15 for this Italian buffet.

Fishing - Gene Boyle (gbrealy@optonline.net; cell: 973-703-9065), **Peter Weinstein** (rodreel44@aol.com; cell: 201-663-3536).

Gourmet Cooking - Jim McKeown, 201-327-3411, jimmckeown@optonline.net. Meets semi-annually in 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 - After twelve years of service, Paul Fazio will be stepping down as Golf Chairman. **Mike Doherty, Paul Fazio, Gary Don, Gary Engelhardt, George Giaquinto, Charlie Tuch, Tom Desmond, Paul Richert**. 109 golfers have registered – most ever! Golfing will begin in April and for those who have signed up for either Tuesdays or Fridays but can't make specific dates, please advise that day's leader by March 15th.

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. The Hikers were recently at Jockey Hollow in Morristown, the site of the 1779-80 winter encampment of the Continental Army under General George Washington.



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

Garry Myers is in the Assisted Living section of The Bristol at Waldwick. He would enjoy hearing from his Hobbyist friends.

In Memoriam:

Betty Gulino, wife of Hobbyist **Marty Gulino** passed away on January 11.

Daniel Eckhardt passed on February 22. He was 84 and had been a Hobbyist for 14 years.

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.

Investments – Ron Reedy and Mike Flannery (new co-chairmen) – looking forward to quarterly meetings, sharing ideas, having guest speakers. There will be no joint investments by the club, nor will any investment advice be provided. A Constant Contact message will be sent to the entire membership about the resumption of this activity.

Jazz Bunch - Bob Stevenson at 201-615-1202, robtstevenson@hotmail.com. The Hobbyists Jazz Bunch consists of Hobbyists who enjoy all forms of jazz and swing music and periodically attend interesting concerts in the metro NY/NJ area.

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

Military History - Tom Heed, 845-534-8695, theed@ramapo.edu. Fourth Monday of each month at the Church. The next meeting will be **MONDAY MARCH 25, 2024, at 2:00 PM**. The meeting will be conducted in the Auditorium and on Zoom. The subject of the meeting is "Battles of the Revolutionary War: Part IV." This session will focus on the battle of Saratoga, the turning point in the American Revolution.

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.

Music Lovers - Jim McKeown, 201-327-3411, jimmckeown@optonline.net. Second Friday, 10:00 a.m. at the church. The most recent Music Lovers meeting was Friday, March 8, in the Church Auditorium. The subject was "**1950's ROCK AND ROLL**" and was presented by **Rick Pascal**. It was excellently enjoyable!

Pinochle - Jim Atieh, 201-315-5346, atiehlj1@verizon.net. The pinochle group meets 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. Poker Meets 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 8 players due to homeowner's table size. Due to the nature of the game Hi-Lo Poker is limited to 7 players.

Public Affairs - Don Togneri, dj2dm2@hotmail.com, 908-347-2820.

Thursday - 3/14/2024 **ZOOM (only) Meeting at 2:00 pm**

On 3/14, Click here to join the meeting: **[JOIN MEETING](#)**

NATO

Do you know?

-Why OTAN? (no, it is not a mirror image)

-One NATO member has a national defense budget of \$0.

*-What country stayed in NATO even though **80%** of the population did not want to stay?*

Formed in the aftermath of WW2, NATO evolved out of bilateral European defense treaties. It was a response to aggressive policies of the Soviet sponsored Warsaw Pact. We will look at how NATO exists today.

Discussion topics:

What is the purpose of NATO?

Question: Can small countries contribute ANYTHING to the alliance?

Issue: Standardization / interchangeability is it possible?

ROMEO - Cliff Matthews, 201-447-9040, cematthews0914@gmail.com. ROMEO meets at different moderately priced BYOB places on the 3rd Friday of the month and is a pleasant way to meet and socialize with fellow Hobbyists. ROMEO will meet next on **FRIDAY MARCH 15, 2024 at 12 p.m.** at Due Fratelli, 235 Diamond Bridge Ave, Hawthorne NJ. Contact **Cliff** if you plan to attend. Wear your membership badge.

Science and Technology – Chairman needed. Third Wednesday, 2 p.m., in the Church auditorium.

Tennis - Al Ianacone, 973-650-1738, acianacone@gmail.com, or **Bob Kozar**, bkozar1@aol.com).

Trips & Tours, Day - Bob Sayegh, 201-670-6010, bobsay14@gmail.com. **Bob Paoli**. A trip to Locust Grove NY to tour the Samuel B Morse home followed by a luncheon locally is planned for **WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19**. The bus will leave from Graydon Pool at 8:30 a.m. The cost is \$108 per person. You can sign up for this event at the next General Meeting on April 4th or contact Bob Sayegh directly.

Trips & Tours, Extended – **Bob Paoli**, (201) 445-1738, bobpaoli@verizon.net is the new chairman.

Volunteer Services - George Millington, 201-444-6245, gzmillington@gmail.com

The Hobbyists Volunteers were active over the summer at Eva's Village in Paterson. We are always looking for volunteers at Eva's Village. We volunteer twice a month on Tuesdays from 10:30 a.m. until about 1:40 p.m. (leaving Ridgewood at 10:00 and returning at 2:00). If members would like to join our Volunteers Group and help feed those who are truly in need, please email **George Millington** or **Dave Smilon** (davesmilon@yahoo.com). The commitment does not have to be twice per month. If you can only make it once, that is fine.

Walking – Alan Stein, stampmaven1@verizon.net, 201-447-4235. **Mark Singer**, msinger@ramapo.edu; (201) 446-6809. The Thursday Walking Group continues to thrive. The group walks 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. Hope more will join us.

Wine Appreciation – Bob Stevenson, 201-615-1202, robtstevenson@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 that “every other” month. The chairman and a committee composed of **Jim Cinquina** and **Jerry Schott** selects an upscale Bergen County BYOB venue and negotiates a custom menu. The next meeting will be at Aldo’s in Wyckoff on **FRIDAY, MARCH 22**. A custom menu has been prearranged, as is the wine.

Winemaking – Paul Richert, 201-967-1347, phriche7314@gmail.com

Meeting Programs Reviews

Hobbyist favorite **Joe Lennox** presented *Apollo 17-The Final Trip to the Moon* following our General Meeting in January. This risky mission’s primary focus was scientific in nature with a geological emphasis. The 12-day journey in December 1972 was the longest in history and was the 11th and final trip to the moon. Five mice accompanied the three-member crew (Eugene Cernan, Ronald Evans, and Harrison Schmitt) to help determine the effects of cosmic rays.

In February, Pat Schuber detailed a Somerset, New Jersey, unsolved murder mystery from 1922. The case involved Edward Wheeler Hall, an Episcopal priest, and Eleanor Mills, a member of his choir with whom he was having an affair. This case received nationwide newspaper coverage and was a media circus eclipsed just years later by the Lindbergh kidnapping trial. The case was also marked by jurisdictional battles between Somerset and Middlesex Counties and a compromised crime scene that clearly hampered the investigation. Among the murder suspects were the priest’s wife, her two brothers, and a cousin. No one was convicted.

Hobbyist **Mike Hurd** gave a stirring talk in March about the benefit of volunteerism with the help of his partner Penny, a therapy dog. Penny is a four-year-old Sheepdoodle who, despite her 80 pound heft, is gentle and cuddly. She loves people, especially young children, responding warmly to everyone’s smiles. Recalling many visits to hospitals and schools, Mike described the positive and oftentimes emotional responses from patients, students and their families when

interacting with Penny. For Mike, these experiences were life changing after losing his wife of 55 years. Helping others gave him inspiration and new purpose in life, and he urged fellow Hobbyists to pursue helping others.



Paul Arilotta welcomes Penny to the Hobbyists

We encourage Hobbyists to attend the programming following the General Meetings.

Editor's Note

As I sit at my desk and write this, the winds of early March are howling, overturning garbage cans, and strewing trash into the streets. Yes, the lion is upon us. But just wait a couple of weeks; spring will be here. The lamb will emerge and calm things down. Many of us will be ready for – or at least thinking about – enjoying the outdoors to a greater extent. The golf season will emerge, in addition to other outside activities. Before you all begin that regimen, however, please take the time to warm up; stretch and do some light exercise before going whole hog into those more strenuous activities. It doesn't take much to pull a muscle, strain a hamstring or other tendon when they're not ready. Remember that at our age it could take longer for a damaged muscle to heal than it did when we were in our twenties. And keep yourself hydrated.

It's always nice to wish others a "Happy Holiday," isn't it? So I want to wish all those observing Easter, Passover, and Ramadan a delightful and joyous celebration.

Finally, don't forget to file your 2023 income taxes. Stay safe and healthy.

Rick Pascal, Editor

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.

One Last Thing – It would be greatly appreciated after each month's General Meeting that you please make sure you discard any coffee cups, plastic bottles and paper wrappers in the appropriate receptacles in the church auditorium. Thank you.

Hobbyists News Staff – **Rick Pascal**, Chairman (201-791-9526, rickpas@optonline.net), **Bill Carbone** (201-652-6693, becarbo@optonline.net), **Ed Daly** (201-447-4603, eddaly386@yahoo.com), **Mark Singer**, (201-446-6809 msinger@ramapo.edu)