

Hobbyists General Meeting Minutes

October 9, 2025

The October Birthday slide is being displayed as Members arrive. Thirty-Four Hobbyists have birthdays in October, including 5 lifetime members, Frank Gillen, Ray Lambert, Charles Thiesan, Joe Burns who will turn 90 this month and will no longer be required to pay Hobbyists Dues and Richard Andersen who will be celebrating his last double-digit birthday turning 99 years young in October. Lastly Matt Harold is celebrating his 78th birthday today.

Meeting called to order by President Don Peterfriend at 10:04AM.

Don welcomed all attendees with a thanks for attending the Meeting. With the beginning of cold weather, it is time to turn our attention to the indoor activities the Hobbyists have to offer. Check the website to find your desired indoor activity.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Bob Paoli. Bob then entertained the attendees with a tasteful joke, which all seemed to enjoy.

President's Report- Don Peterfriend:

- Upcoming Event- Holiday Dinner Dance is one of the Hobbyists long standing activities. Bill Healy is Chairing this Wonderful Event which is being held at Seasons on December 15th. All information is on the Hobbyists Website or see/contact Bill Healy directly. Don urged as many as possible to attend this Spectacular Event.
- Don again thanked those who have stepped up and assumed responsibility by taking on Chairman Activity Roles. Also encouraged all Members to participate in as many activities which the Club has to offer urging 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 and appreciated.
- Still have one vital Chair position to be filled. Someone is needed to lead the Trips and Tours Activity. For newer members this has been a vital activity of the organization which has seen Hobbyists take cruises, trips to Europe, tour all over the US, travel to Woodloch Pines, attend Broadway shows and visit historical sites. Basically, it has given many Members and Spouses the opportunity to participate in outings with like-minded Members. Trips and Tours has been a mainstay of the Hobbyists and it would be a shame to see this vibrant activity/group cease to exist due to apathy if no one steps up to lead the it. Don is asking anyone/someone to be the Chair. Bob Sayegh has offered to assist the new Chairman.
- Annual Dues payment has commenced and are currently due for the upcoming year. Once again dues are not being increased remaining at \$60.00 for 2026. Dues are payable to Hobbyists Unlimited and can be mailed to the Treasurer, Gary Engelhardt (569 Cliff Street, Ridgewood, NJ, 07450) or be given to Bob Mosher, Membership Chair, at the General Meeting.
- 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 32 new Members and 2 Pending all with varying backgrounds, 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 and per Steve, there is one new release on the website under Hobbyists Songs entitled “Don Peterfriend” which is great and deserves a listen.
- Nominating Committee Chairman, Bob Mosher issued a Constant Contact email on 10/7/'25 to all Members outlining the incoming Executive Officers and Executive Committee for 2026. Kindly review the slate of Nominees as voting will take place at the November 6th General Meeting.
- 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:

- Three Hobbyists passed in the last few Months: 1) Abe Smulewitz (83) a Hobbyists since 2016 passed on July 16th. 2) Bill Fontes (89) a Hobbyists since 1999 passed on September 18th. A private service will be held in the spring. 3) Henry Weber (101) a Hobbyists since 2014 passed on September 13th. Also, Steve Rubin has volunteered to help Peter starting in December.

Treasurer's Report - Gary Engelhardt:

- Dues payment commenced last month. Thus far 150 have paid and 220 are due. CD of \$42,000 Rolled Over last month for 1 year generated \$121 in interest in September

Membership – Bob Mosher:

- We currently have 439 members, 69 which are Lifetime including those to be added during 2025, There are 63 members present today and 1 on line. The average age of the Hobbyists has declined from 81 to 80. Since the beginning of the year 34 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: Gary Bright (Mark Singer and Bill Rafferty)

Speaker Program- Peter Weinstein:

- Today's program presented by: Dr. Scott Cavagnuolo
“Transitioning Senior Citizens to Long Term Health Care”

Activity Chairman Reports:

- Beer Appreciation – Rick Rosenthal: Next gathering is scheduled for October 16, 2025 6:30PM at Hot Fish, Hackensack, NJ.
- 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 – Peter Philip: Last month's book “The Loves of Theodore Rossevelt” by Edwin O'Keefe, discussed four women who influenced TR, was an interesting read. October 17th meeting (10AM at FPC) will discuss “Longstreet Confederate General” moderated by Cliff Matthews with a reenactment of Gettysburg.
- Bridge Club – Mike Murphy: Group has been growing with 5 or 6 tables, meeting at noon each Thursday at FPC.

- Chess Club -Rick Pascal: Chess reached an all-time high number of players and has established a name for the group, "KINGSMEN" with other names discussed being "Queens" and "Knights of the Square Table". Club meets Wednesdays at 10AM at the Church, with a refresher at 9:30AM. Contact Rich for a refresher. Rick also entertained the attendees with a joke.
- 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.
- 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. Also, there will be music and dancing. Get your reservation now to save your table/seats for this annual event. Contact Bill Healy for details and to make your reservation.
- Fishing- Peter Weinstein: No trips planned at present
- Golf- Gary Englehardt: Championship was held last week (9/30). James Harte won the Championship with a score of 81. John Smith shot a 73, however, he was ineligible to win as he did not participate in an adequate number of rounds during the season. The Golf Luncheon will be held at Fiona's Restaurant in Midland Park on October 28th at noon. Good lunch with raffles and prizes.
- Habitat for Humanity- Rich Edelman: The past twelve years the group has been working on properties in Paterson. A new building has started on Auburn Street (3Bdrms/2Baths). All are welcome to give it a try. Contact Rich Edelman to sign up.
- Hobbyists Songs-Steve Freidman and Dick Boswell Co-Chairs: See General Activities of website.
- 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 was October 8th-10th in the Berkshires.
- Investment Club-Mike Flannery: Future meeting will be Wednesday October 22nd at FPC and via Zoom. Discussion will a review of 3rd Qtr., Topical Issues and Investment Program Returns.
- Military History – Tom Heed: Next meeting is scheduled for Monday October 24th at 2:00PM in the Church Auditorium with topic to be "America's Way of 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 October 14th at 1:30PM. The movie will be "Mister. Roberts" (1955, 2hr). Starring Henry Fonda, James Cagney, Jack Lemmon and William Powell in his last performance. See Dick's constant contact email for details
- Music Lovers – Jim McKeown: Next program is scheduled for Friday October 10th at 10:00AM in the Church Auditorium. Rick Pascal will present "Broadways Most Memorable Songs and Showstoppers- Part Two".
- Newsletter – Rick Pascal: Steve Rubin is stepping up to replace Bill Carbone and will be helping Rick primarily handling composition.
- Pickleball – Alan Lo and Bob Becher 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 October 17, 2025, Noon at Due Fratelli (235 Diamond Bridge Road, Hawthorne). Kindly advise Cliff no later than Noon on October 14th to reserve your seat and allow him to have a good headcount for the reservation. Note: From personal experience DON'T PARK in the Post Office lot across the street as you will get towed and it will be costly!

- Trip and Tours- Don Peterfriend: Need someone/anyone to step up as a new Chair to replace Bob Sayegh who after many years of running this activity has decided to retire. Bob has indicated he will assist whomever accepts the position. 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. Next date is Tuesday October 28th.
- Wine Appreciation-Bob Stevenson: Nothing planned for October.
- 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 October 8th at 2PM Zoom only.

Chair needed for Trips and Tours. Someone needs to step up for this long time and vital Hobbyists Activity. See President Don Peterfriend.

Other Business: None

Business Meeting Concluded at 10:45AM

Today's program: Presented by: Dr. Scott Cavagnuolo
 "Transitioning Senior Citizens to Long Term Health Care"

Respectfully submitted by,
 Chuck Woehrle, Executive Secretary