

December 2024

Winter Edition

Vol. 37 No. 4

Officers for 2024

President – **Don Peterfriend**

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President – **Peter Weinstein**

2<sup>nd</sup> 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>



Past President **Mark Singer** passes the gavel to President **Don Peterfriend**



President **Peterfriend** Accepting the presidency with the past presidents looking on.

### Club Activities

**Membership Committee:** Chairman **Bob Mosher**, 201-689-9651, [rmosher895@aol.com](mailto:rmosher895@aol.com), Constant Contact **Ed Daly**, Roster Data **Steve Hochman**, Excel Spreadsheet Data **Steve Friedman**, Fees / Dues **Gary Engelhardt**, Roster Photos **Steve Basch**, Table Assistants **Steve Rubin**, **Paul Daniele**, (Additional positions available), Candidate follow-up - Position currently open. Please contact our chairman if you would like to participate on the Membership Committee.

### Welcome New Members:

**Tim Schmidt**

**Tom Cahill**

**Matt Silverman**

**Robert Husband**

**Steven Marcone**

**Archive - Joe Suplicki**, 201-316-3262, [jssuplicki@aol.com](mailto:jssuplicki@aol.com).

**Audio/Visual - Bob Mosher**, 201-689-9651, [rmosher895@aol.com](mailto:rmosher895@aol.com), **Ed Daly**, 201-447-4603, [eddaly386@yahoo.com](mailto:eddaly386@yahoo.com).

**Beer Appreciation – Rick Rosenthal**, [rickcroenthal@icloud.com](mailto:rickcroenthal@icloud.com), 201-675-1870. We had our first meeting on Thursday, November 14 at the GearBlock in Waldwick. Thirteen thirsty Hobbyists attended. Our December meeting was at The Five Dimes in Westwood.



**Blackjack - Ray Litwitz**, 973-714-9019, [reljr@optonline.net](mailto:reljr@optonline.net) Blackjack meets on the second and fourth Thursday at noon at various members' homes for a friendly game. If interested in joining the group, please contact Ray.

**Bocce - Steve Friedman**, 201-916-6079, [stefri4@yahoo.com](mailto:stefri4@yahoo.com). The Bocce Boys have moved indoors for the winter season, currently playing at the Fair Lawn Superdome. We get a steady turnout of Hobbyists and are always looking for more members to join us. You don't need any experience, all you need is to be able to roll a ball. When the weather breaks, we'll be back outside at Waldwick Borough Park. Enjoy the holiday season. Stay safe and warm!

**Book Club - Peter Philip** 201-666-0105, [pjphilip37@optonline.net](mailto:pjphilip37@optonline.net), **Jon Sterling**, [jbsterling@optonline.net](mailto:jbsterling@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](mailto:garydon3@verizon.net), **Don Peterfriend**, 201-739-8672, [dpeterfriend@yahoo.com](mailto:dpeterfriend@yahoo.com), **Mark Singer**, 201-446-6809, [msinger@ramapo.edu](mailto:msinger@ramapo.edu), **Bill Raftery**, 201-527- 8585, [mrbill357@verizon.net](mailto:mrbill357@verizon.net), **Bob Mosher**, 201-615-5603, [rmosher895@aol.com](mailto:rmosher895@aol.com). Congratulations to the Phantoms (**Gary Don, Ray Litwitz, Greg Burks, Bob Stevenson**) for winning the first session of our current bowling season. We will be off on Christmas Day and New Year's Day and will start up again on January 8. Any new bowlers interested in joining us can contact any Committee member or just show up at Montvale Lanes on a Wednesday at 9 a.m.



**Paul Richert** thought this situation on adjacent lanes was wild enough to capture. **Ferdinand Raphael** and **Giancarlo Bisone** had this to make for a spare. Both made it!!

**Bridge - Mike Murphy**, 201-334-7284, [mgmclbchp@gmail.com](mailto:mgmclbchp@gmail.com). **Ray Chuebon**, 201-652-4586, [rchuebon@yahoo.com](mailto:rchuebon@yahoo.com), Thursdays, 11:45 a.m. in the East Room of the church. Duplicate bridge play concludes no later than 4 p.m. The Hobbyists Bridge club had a fantastic year. We've welcomed five new members, all of whom joined the Hobbyists. We've been able to have at least four tables at least two thirds of the time. The club had both a spring and December luncheon, both of which were well attended. We're still looking to add new players; so come on down and join us.



**Camera Club** – Looking for a volunteer to lead the club. Contact President **Peterfriend** if interested.

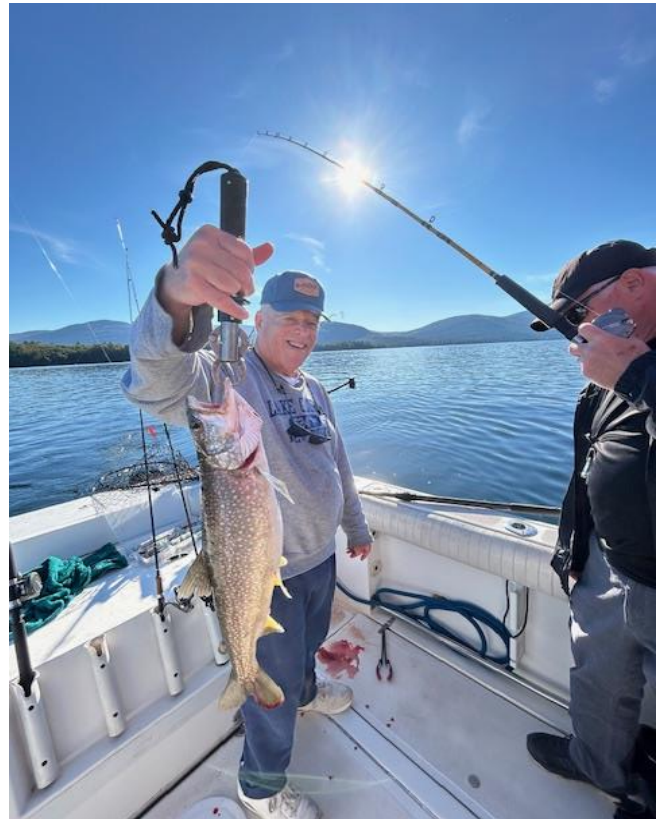
**Chess Club- Rick Pascal**, 201-208-7191, rickpas@optonline.net, **Jeff Kresky**, 201-965-5078, kreskyj@wpunj.edu. Our growing group of chess enthusiasts meets on Wednesday mornings from 10 a.m. to noon at the church.

**Computer Club** – There is interest in resurrecting the Computer Club. Please contact **Bob Stevenson**, 201-615-1202, robstevenson@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.

**Fishing - Gene Boyle**, 973-703-9065, gbrealty@optonline.net, **Peter Weinstein**, 201-663-3536, rodnreel44@aol.com. **Ron Reedy**, **Steve Weinstein** and **Peter Weinstein** went on a trip to Lake George. This is the result:





**Gourmet Cooking - Jim McKeown**, 201-327-3411, [jimmckeown@optonline.net](mailto: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 2024 golf season ended with a fantastic lunch held at Fiona's in Midland Park on October 30 with close to 60 attendees. We set a record with over 110 members registering to play golf. This year's club champion is **Ian Coburn**. To view all our tournament winners during the 2024 golf season please go to the Hobbyist Golf Activity Page on the Hobbyist website.

Getting a hole in one is every golfer's dream. This season we had not one, not two, but three holes in one recorded by **Bill Burdick** at Great Gorge, **Joe Taormina** at Baywood Greens and **Mike Serpico** at Orchard Hills. During the golf luncheon a beautiful picture frame was presented to each in honor of their achievement. The 2025 golf registration will begin in January 2025 and run through February.



**Bill Burdick, Joe Taormina, Mike Serpico**



**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 out doing their thing!

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

**Robert Waring** passed away on September 28. He was 92 and had been a Hobbyists since 1991.

**Joe Ippolito** passed away on October 2. He was 91 and had been a Hobbyist since 2014.

**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 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays of the month at 2 p.m. at the church.

**Jazz Bunch - Bob Stevenson**, 201-615-1202, robstevenson@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.

**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, jimckeown@optonline.net. Second Friday, 10 a.m. at the church. Recently--Comedy in World of Music; Music of the Great Depression and WWII; The Guitar in the World of Music; 'Big' 12 Chorus Masterpieces. Coming--Song Parodies; Jazzy Ladies; Broadway Blockbusters; The Art of Conducting; Comedy in Music (Reprise).

**Pickleball - Allen Krauss**, akrauss2@gmail.com. **Alan Lo**, 908-447-833, funnycpa@aol.com. We had a great first season. Guys who played really improved their games and are now a force to be reckoned with. Turnout was steady as the season wound down and play continued well into November. Friendships were made not only amongst the Hobbyists but with the local players - male and female, young and old, advanced, and intermediate. Really was a great group of players. We would like to get more of a turnout. For more information, please go to our Team Reach site with the code: Hobby-Pickle. If you are no longer interested please delete your name from the Team Reach site. If you are still interested and would like to provide feedback, please do so. Thanks and have a Happy New Year.

**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, cematthews0914@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](mailto: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](mailto:acianacone@gmail.com), Bob Kozar, [bkozar1@aol.com](mailto:bkozar1@aol.com).

**Trips & Tours, Day - Bob Sayegh**, 201-670-6010, [bobsay14@gmail.com](mailto:bobsay14@gmail.com). **Bob Paoli**, 201-445-1738, [bobpaoli@verizon.net](mailto:bobpaoli@verizon.net).

**Trips & Tours, Extended** – Chairman needed for this activity. Contact **Don Peterfriend**, 201) 825-7515, [dpeterfriend@yahoo.com](mailto:dpeterfriend@yahoo.com)

**The Volunteer Service Club - George Millington**, 201-444-6245, [gzmillington@gmail.com](mailto:gzmillington@gmail.com)  
**Dave Smilon**, co-chairmen. 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 going to Eva's on a given Tuesday.



**Steve Marcone and Dave Smilon at Eva's Village.**

**Walking – Alan Stein**, 201-447-4235, [stampmaven1@verizon.net](mailto:stampmaven1@verizon.net), **Mark Singer**, 201-446-6809, [msinger@ramapo.edu](mailto: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 will join us.

**Wine Appreciation – Bob Stevenson**, 201-615-1202, [robtstevenson@hotmail.com](mailto: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 every other month. The chairman and a committee composed of **Jim Cinquina** and **Jerry Schott** select an upscale Bergen County BYOB venue and negotiates a custom menu.



**Winemaking – Paul Richert**, 201-967-1347, [phriche7314@gmail.com](mailto:phriche7314@gmail.com). It has been a very busy year for the Hobbyist Winemakers' Club. We have been involved in three different 60-gallon barrels this year alone. In May we crushed our 2024 Chilean Carmenere, Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot blend. In June 3rd we pressed these same grapes and pumped the juice into our 60-gallon wooden barrel. Thirty-one Hobbyists are involved in this winemaking project. It will be ready for bottling in February or March of 2025. All 60-gallon barrels yield 24 cases of wine representing 288 bottles per barrel. In August we “racked” the juice from the Chilean blend. To rack the fermenting wine we pump the juice out of the barrel into a holding tank, turn the barrel over and insert a hose to thoroughly wash out the barrel with water. This removes any impurities as well as the remains of the skins, pits, etc. from the barrel. The wine is then pumped back into the barrel to continue the fermentation process. On the same day we bottled our 2023 Opus One blend. Thirty Hobbyists participated in preparing this barrel. This wine, as are all other wines made at the “Wine Experience” in Tinton Falls, was entered into the wine competition held annually by the “Wine Experience.” It was awarded a DOUBLE GOLD MEDAL. In order to earn a double gold rating all 5 American Wine tasters Association members who judge the wine must award it a gold medal. Only about 5 % of all wines made at the winery earn this commendation.

In October we started a new 60-gallon barrel. This time we made a Cabernet Sauvignon and Barbera blend. In November we pressed the grapes and began the fermentation process. Twenty-six Hobbyists are participating in this winemaking activity.

My sincere thanks go out to Lou Fucito and Ken Hekman, fellow winemakers. Lou has designed the labels for our bottles for a few years now. Ken's wife, Marybeth, has designed a number of our wine labels. They are truly beautiful works of art.

Finally, thank you to the Hobbyists for supporting activities such as ours. Since 2011, the Winemakers' Club has been creating some wonderful wine blends. Over the years, I estimate that over 100 different Hobbyists have been involved in the process. I am grateful to the Hobbyists (and by extension First Presbyterian Church) for supporting activities such as ours. Thank you to all.

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

**Constant Contact – Ed Daly**, 201-447-4603, [eddaly386@yahoo.com](mailto:eddaly386@yahoo.com). If you are creating an email using Constant Contact, you will need to have an access code for your first use (only). The codes are user specific and Ed Daly has a list of codes by individual so call him to get your code for your first use.

**Valley Hospital** presents a roundup of the latest events taking place throughout the year that be of interest to you. If interested [View in browser](#). Or go to [ValleyHealth.com/events](https://ValleyHealth.com/events)

## 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. Recently, a member was incorrectly ticketed for parking in an area that followed a longtime agreement Hobbyists have with the Ridgewood Police Department. Peter Weinstein, our Second Vice President, favorably resolved the matter with Ridgewood Police Cpt. Ender.

### *From the Editor*

We made it through another year; Hallelujah! We shared the past year together enjoying hobbies and interests both physically and mentally challenging. We were up for it and we did it. Now that we're preparing for another new year, the staff of the Hobbyists Unlimited Newsletter wish each of you, your families and close friends a year of health, happiness, and good fortune in 2025. Congratulations also to our new President, Don Peterfriend and the Executive Committee. And may we all continue to cherish the fellowship afforded to us as members of the Hobbyists.

*Rick Pascal*

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

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**Note:** 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 (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)