

## There is no Activities Unlimited General Meeting in August

### NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I hope you are all enjoying our typical New Jersey summer weather, hot and humid but we are getting rain, maybe too much for our outside activities but the rain is making for green lawns and beautiful flowers. So I guess we need to accept the good with the not so good.

As we all know there is no meeting in August and most of the clubs are also taking the month off. Hopefully we will all be ready for September and the start of fall. We have some great speakers lined up and Trips and Tours has scheduled some wonderful trips. Read about all of this in this newsletter.

At our meeting in July we had 62 attend in the church sanctuary. This is less than our monthly average of almost 90 but it was in the morning and some indicated they were not comfortable meeting in the sanctuary. We had a great speaker talking about the history of Paterson and maybe that was the draw. Whatever the reasons why you did or did not attend we would like to hear the reasons as the survey we took in the spring indicated that 60% wanted to give a morning meeting a try. So please call me or email me with your comments. We will then make a decision on whether we should continue with the meetings in the sanctuary in the morning or go back to Heneveld Hall with the meetings in the afternoon.

At our meeting we also honored our dear friend, Ramon Casaprima as he is moving to New Hampshire. As he always said in his newsletter addresses when he was President in 2015, "Happy Trails".

Ramon we wish you "Happy Trails, and the very best wishes. We hope to see you many more times when you are back in New Jersey.

Joe Pullaro  
[josephpullaro@hotmail.com](mailto:josephpullaro@hotmail.com)  
201-337-0018

### Obituaries

AU member **Charlie Romano** passed away on July 7 2019.

On July 9th Ginnie Page wife of AU member **Charlie Page** passed away.



At the July 16th General Meeting,  
Tom DeStefano presented  
"A History of Paterson"

At the **June** meeting **\$15.00** was collected for the Wyckoff Reformed Church Food Pantry.

Please remember that WRC is a smoke-free environment. **This includes E-Cigarettes.**

# ACTIVITIES UNLIMITED

## GENERAL MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION



### 2019 OFFICERS



**Joe Pullaro**  
President  
201-337-0018



**Vincent Tortorelli**  
1st Vice President  
201-447-3718



**Bob Dauer**  
2nd Vice President  
201-327-9247



**Dave Voehl**  
Secretary  
973-227-6981



**Doug Cooper**  
Treasurer  
908-907-1112



**Jeff Mohn**  
Asst. Treas.  
201-261-1219

| COMMITTEES & C LUBS |                                                 |                                              |                                                                        |                                |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| GROUP               | CONTACT                                         | PHONE                                        | MEETING                                                                |                                |
| <b>AU Guys Band</b> | John DeSantis                                   | 201-447-0256                                 |                                                                        |                                |
| <b>Book Club</b>    | Vince Tortorelli<br>Joe Clinton                 | 201-447-3718<br>201-447-2261                 | 4th Wed. 9:30 am<br>WRC-Memorial Rm                                    |                                |
| <b>Dup. Bridge</b>  | ED Foldessy                                     | 201-327-5767                                 | Wed 1:00 pm<br>Larkin House                                            |                                |
| <b>Rub. Bridge</b>  | Bob Mulligan<br>Dave Kampschmidt                | 201-447-8837<br>201-405-2043                 | M & F 1:00 pm<br>Franklin Lakes Ambulance Building                     |                                |
| <b>Care-Concern</b> | Jeff Mohn<br>Paul Hennion                       | 201-261-1219<br>201-891-4716                 |                                                                        |                                |
| <b>Chaplain</b>     | Rev Andy Kadzban                                | 201-485-8589                                 |                                                                        |                                |
| <b>Computer</b>     | Don Kirkpatrick<br>Ed Schlachman<br>Fred Theile | 201-337-5666<br>973-423-1459<br>201-825-7541 | 3rd Wed 10:00 am<br>WRC-2nd Floor                                      |                                |
| <b>Gardening</b>    | Joe Lamela<br>Rick Sneyers                      | 201-327-8137<br>973-248-6625                 | 1st Wed. 10:00 am<br>WRC-Memorial Room                                 |                                |
| <b>Golf</b>         | Bill Bryne<br>Jim Webb                          | 201-447-5064<br>201-337-7982                 | Tues & Thur.<br>Paramus Golf Club                                      |                                |
| <b>Hiking</b>       | <b>Long</b>                                     | Don Kirkpatrick<br>Rick Sneyers              | 201-337-5666<br>973-248-6625                                           | Mon 9:00 am<br>WRC-Parking Lot |
|                     | <b>Short</b>                                    | Fred Theile                                  | 201-981-1801                                                           | Mon 9:30 am<br>WRC-Parking Lot |
| <b>Historian</b>    | Victor Pizzolato                                | 201-612-0038                                 |                                                                        |                                |
| <b>History</b>      | Pablo Catangay<br>Tony Mastandrea               | 201-684-1217<br>201-327-8832                 | 4th Mon 1:00 pm<br>WRC-2nd Floor                                       |                                |
| <b>Investment</b>   | Al Connelly                                     | 973-616-0755                                 | 2nd Thur.<br>9:30 to 10:30 am<br>WRC-Memorial Rm<br>Exp. July & August |                                |
| <b>Luncheon</b>     | John Abrahamsen                                 | john.abrahamsen.bnp@gmail.com                |                                                                        |                                |
|                     | Mark Cohen                                      | 201-337-4198                                 |                                                                        |                                |

| COMMITTEES & CLUBS      |                                |                              |                                                         |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| GROUP                   | CONTACT                        | PHONE                        | MEETING                                                 |
| <b>Membership</b>       | Walt Widmer<br>Dick Hensch     | 201-562-8666<br>201-891-1309 |                                                         |
| <b>Newsletter</b>       | Lou Guarneri<br>Dick Hensch    | 201-847-1981<br>201-891-1309 |                                                         |
| <b>Pickleball</b>       | Tim Tracy<br>Tom Martin        | 201-560-8911<br>201-891-3185 | Tue & Thur. 9:00<br>Wyckoff Public Tennis Courts        |
| <b>Project Outreach</b> | Marty McGonigle<br>Joe Pullaro | 201-529-1941<br>201-337-0018 |                                                         |
| <b>Photography</b>      | Murry Perl<br>Sam Ohan         | 201-446-7357<br>201-825-0437 | 1st Tue 10:00 am<br>WRC-2nd Floor                       |
| <b>Public Disc.</b>     | Walt Widmer<br>Tom Butler      | 201-562-8666<br>201-934-8161 | 2nd Wed 9:30 am<br>Larkin House                         |
| <b>Refreshments</b>     | Jim Forbes<br>John Gannaway    | 201-825-0523<br>201-485-7881 |                                                         |
| <b>Science</b>          | Jack Yurasek<br>Harry Bennett  | 201-337-4433<br>201-891-9527 | 3rd Tue 10.00 am<br>WRC-2nd Floor                       |
| <b>Skiing</b>           | Bud Brooks<br>Jack Yurasek     | 201-327-6649<br>201-337-4433 | Snow                                                    |
| <b>Sponsor Liaison</b>  | Jim Mallen                     | 201-485-8589                 |                                                         |
| <b>Stock Market</b>     | Mark Cohen<br>John Abrahamsen  | 201-337-4198<br>201-848-8037 | 2nd Tues. 9:00 am<br>4th Tues. 9:00 am<br>WRC-2nd Floor |
| <b>Tennis</b>           | Dave Burleigh<br>Bob Meyers    | 201-762-3707<br>310-254-8699 | M, W & F<br>Time & Place Seasonal                       |
| <b>Transport.</b>       | Frank Nusspickel               | 201-891-9099                 |                                                         |
| <b>Trips/Tours</b>      | John Caikowsky<br>Don Wasson   | 973-599-1056<br>201-891-1873 | 2nd Tue 10:15 am<br>Heneveld Hall                       |
| <b>Web-Master</b>       | Don Kirkpatrick                | 201-337-5666                 |                                                         |

The deadline for the September, 2019 Newsletter articles is 5 PM, Wednesday, August 28, 2019. When submitting articles, please use font: Times New Roman 11 pt. (not bold). Email: [lguarneri03@gmail.com](mailto:lguarneri03@gmail.com) and [jrhensch62@gmail.com](mailto:jrhensch62@gmail.com) or mail to: **Lou Guarneri**, 128 MacLeish Court, Mahwah, NJ 07430

## Trips, Tours & Special Events Calendar

Checks for these events, payable to Activities Unlimited accepted at the monthly meeting.  
**Sign up sheets are nice, but money talks. Get your check in ASAP, don't wait 'til it's too late.**

### **Tuesday-August 6, 2019 HUNTERDON HILLS PLAYHOUSE **SOLD OUT****

"I DO! I DO!" starring Rex Smith and Broadway legend Andrea McArdle. Ms. McArdle credits include original "Annie"; "Les Misérables" and "Beauty and the Beast". This musical comedy which follows Michael and Agnes thru the whirlwind journey of their wedding day thru fifty years of marriage. A sit down luncheon starts at 11 am sharp will precede the show. **Wives/significant others are invited.** Space is limited and all checks must be received no later than July 5, 2019. This is a carpool event. Make checks payable to Activities Unlimited for \$65.00 pp and mail to: **John Caikowsky**, 26 Donna Drive, East Hanover, NJ 07936.

Any questions contact John @ [johncaikowsky@optonline.net](mailto:johncaikowsky@optonline.net) or call 973-599-1056

### **Thursday – September 19, 2019 – AU ANNUAL SOCIAL**

Our annual Fall Wine Tasting Party, now called "AU Annual Social", has a new venue. It will now be held on September 19<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm at the Upper Ridgewood Tennis Club (URTC), 915 Glenview Rd, Ridgewood, NJ. This location is approx. 15 minutes from the Wyckoff Reformed Church, and directions will be provided.

We're looking forward to our newer members joining us as it is a great way for them and their **wives/significant others** to meet everyone in a casual social environment.

No one will leave hungry as there will be plenty of appetizers (Shrimp, Top Sirloin on Mini Bread, Pigs in a Blanket, etc.), along with wine, soda and water.

Please send your check for \$42 pp payable to Activities Unlimited to:  
**George Lewis**, 45 Walnut St West, Mahwah, NJ 07430

### **Tuesday, October 8, 2019 AU Breakfast**

At the Brick House, 179 Godwin Avenue, Wyckoff, NJ starting at 9 AM. Our speaker will be The Great Scott, Magician/Illusionist. **Cost is \$13 per person.** Please send in your check, payable to Activities Unlimited, to **Bob Dauer**, 15 Birchwood Lane, Ramsey, NJ 07446. Any questions call Bob at 201-327-9247

### **Monday - October 21, 2019 Taste of the Big Apple Food Tour **Sold Out****

This is a full day tour offered by Stage Right Tours of Waldwick, NJ. We will be riding by bus through NYC, starting in the Bronx and ending in Lower Manhattan, where we will sample various Foods of the World. We'll see mozzarella & bread being made on Arthur Ave., taste Dim Sum in Chinatown, enjoy pastries in the East Village and knishes on the Lower East Side. The trip will end at Economy Candy, where you can blast to the past with candies from the good old days. Candy Buttons, Pixie Sticks and Wax Lips. Our Guide will be Art Zuckerman (radio host) who will tell funny stories of food and the neighborhoods you will visit. **SPACE IS LIMITED** This trip is on a first come, first serve basis. Bus will depart Wyckoff Reform Church at 9:00AM sharp and return at 6:00PM. The cost is \$79 pp and includes sample food equal to two meals, motor coach and guide. **Wives/significant others are invited.** Please send your check for \$79 payable to "Activities Unlimited" to: **Lou Guarneri** 128 MacLeish Court, Mahwah, NJ 07430. Any questions call Lou at 201-847-1981 or **Don Wasson** at 201-891-1873. Please include your cell phone number with your check

**Note: Tuesday August 20, 2019, at 2:30 pm**, A special presented by the Wyckoff Library: Mission to Mars? See last page of the August Newsletter for details and registration information. This is not an AU Trips & Tours program. It may be of interest to you.

Welcome New Members c

| Name (Spouse)                | Address                               | Employment    | Interests                                                                                  | Phone/Email                                                      |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Gaspar Lesznik<br>(Cecilia)  | 747 Wyckoff Ave.<br>Wyckoff, NJ 07481 |               | History Club, Trips & Tours,<br>Gardening Club, Luncheon,<br>Golf, Photography             | C:201-774-8608<br>Email: gasparlesznik@gmail.com                 |
| Jim J. McGinnis<br>(Beverly) | 1 Lee Court<br>Waldwick, NJ 07463     | Sales         | Trips & Tours, Photography                                                                 | H:201-445-2016<br>Email: jmgin196@gmail.com                      |
| Herb Steiner<br>(Ellen)      | 149 Fisher Road<br>Mahwah, NJ 07430   | Social Worker | History Club, Discussion Club,<br>Investments, Pickle Ball,<br>Care & Concern, Stock Club, | H:2019627480<br>C:201-543-7809<br>Email: thesteinersnj@yahoo.com |



# The Bridge Club

|      |    | 1st              | 2nd                   | 3rd                 |
|------|----|------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 7/3  | NS | Freimuth/Zelhof  | Milcos/Spence         | Boylan/Randolph     |
|      | EW | Peck/Warner      | Mahmarian/Yampell     | Foldessy/Panagides  |
| 7/10 | NS | Lewis/Warner     | Randolph/Spence       | Peck/Wong           |
|      | EW | Freimuth/Yampell | Foldessy/Groesbeck    | Cheeseman/Mahmarian |
| 7/17 | NS | Mahmarian/Peck   | Kampschmidt/Warner    | Conant/Foldessy     |
|      | EW | Freimuth/Lewis   | Barbera/Anand/Pingili | Cheeseman/Milcos    |
| 7/24 | NS | Warner/Mahmarian | Anand/Bidwell         | Pingili/Peck        |
|      | EW | Cheeseman/Spence | Bartlett/Zelhof       | Martin/Randolph     |
| 7/31 | NS | Milcos/Wong      | Martin/Mahmarian      | Lewis/Cheesman      |
|      | EW | Freimuth/Meloro  | Warner/Groesbeck      | Anand/Zelhof        |



## The Science Club

There was no meeting in July and there will be no August Meeting

Thank you **John Steen** for your informative talk Titled: Textiles 101. We are anticipating 102!! We hope to follow John's recommendation to visit the Paterson Museum for info on many displays on Locomotives, Textiles, and Aircraft engines. Tom DeStefano recently gave an excellent talk on Paterson at the July AU meeting, and also encouraged a visit to the Museum, and the Paterson Falls (now part of the National Park System).

The September meeting is Scheduled for 10AM, Tuesday, the week following the General Meeting (specifies will be provided).

A Paterson Museum trip could be planned based upon interest (please get back).

A trip to Lamont Labs is Planned for October. Note: Lamont Open House trip is always on for a Saturday.

Thanks again to those whose gave talks this past year. We are always trying to have additional people make presentations, and suggestions to improve our group are always welcome.

**Harry Bennett** ([harben@optonline.net](mailto:harben@optonline.net))  
**Jack Yurasek** (201-337-4433) [Email--Jyurasek@aol.com](mailto:Email--Jyurasek@aol.com)

## The History Club



The History Club meeting for July was held on July 22. There were 27 members present and 2 invited guests. The topic of my presentation was "South China Sea: Conflict, Power Struggle and Quagmire in Southeast Asia." The narrative started with China's place in history. China prides herself of more than 4000 years of ancient civilization that has continued today and was one of the cradles of human race. They considered themselves as the center of the universe, having invented paper, compass, gun powder, silk, porcelain, etc. and built the "great wall of China" in 220 BC. Then came the century of humiliation that started with the first opium war with United Kingdom in 1839. This century of humiliation continued until 1949 with the Chinese civil war, the Communist prevailed under the leadership of Mao Tse Tung and transformed China into a Communist State. The events of this period dealt an intense shock to China's worldview and self-image.

In 1947, following WW II, the Republic of China (present day Taiwan) drew a map with 11 dash line in a U shape manner that encompass approximately 95 % of the South China Sea and the islands in it as China's territory. In 1949, Communist China (mainland China) now called Peoples Republic of China adopted the 11 dash line and claimed South China Sea and the islands in it as her territory. Later, PRC changed the 11 dash line to 9 dash line. South China Sea has an expanse of 1.5 million square miles that border 8 different countries with diverse religion, culture and language. It is estimated that 12 % of fish catch in the world come from South China Sea and it uses more half of the fishing vessels in the world with hundred of millions of people depend on it as source of food supply. In addition, 5.5 trillion-US dollars worth of shipping pass through South China Sea every year and 1.2 trillion-US dollars of this account is trade with the U.S. The United States Energy Information Administration estimated the South China Sea seabed contains more than 190 trillion cu. ft. of natural gas and more than 9 billion barrels of oil. China and 7 other countries in South China Sea laid claims on various islands in SCS. For the past 20 or so years, the Peoples Republic of China embarked on land reclamation, dredging, artificial island building and "building the wall of sand." China uses threat, intimidation, pits one country against the other to continue its island building. The Philippines sued China in the international tribunal in The Hague regarding territorial dispute in South China Sea, in violation of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, and the court ruled in favor of the Philippines.

China asserts "indisputable sovereignty" on South China Sea on historical context but this contention has no legal basis as ruled by the international tribunal in The Hague. In Spratly Islands, China built seven artificial islands and militarized it with radar, anti-aircraft guns, helipad, runways capable of supporting fighter jets, aircraft transport, hard retractable roof equipped with mobile missile launcher and satellite monitoring systems.

The Chinese coast guards, fishermen/maritime militia- trained and equipped by the Chinese Navy continued to harass/intimidate fishermen of Southeast Asian countries and on many occasions rammed their fishing boats. There were many incidents involving the US Navy ships and US Navy Reconnaissance planes being harassed by Chinese Navy and Air Force. The United States stresses freedom of movement in the international waters. The US challenges China by conducting Freedom of Navigation Operations in South China Sea few times without incident. From US perspective, they can continue to conduct the Freedom of Navigation operation because of American naval dominance. China sees itself as a growing power that has a right to further its interest in its own backyard (South China Sea), just as Western powers have done for centuries. In my humble opinion, the United States and China are better off cooperating but in reality, they often treat each other as competitors or potential enemies.

**Pablo A. Catangay**

### DATE SET FOR AU/HOBBYISTS ANNUAL GOLF MATCH

This year's annual competition between Ridgewood's Hobbyists and Wyckoff's AU golfers has been set for Tuesday, August 27th at Apple Greens Golf Club, Highlands, NY.

The format for this competition consists of two-man teams from each club play a match in which the team with the lower net score on each hole wins the hole. The winner of the match is the twosome that wins the most holes. The overall winner of the team competition is the team that wins the most matches.

The matches are usually competitive but played in the spirit of good sportsmanship. The Hobbyists have taken the trophy for the last few years, but last year's match was determined by one point.

If you would like to play in this competition, please advise **Bruno Bissetta** (brubi33@hotmail.com)

You must have either an AU assigned or GHIN approved handicap to participate.

The cost will be around \$50. Details will be made available at a later date.



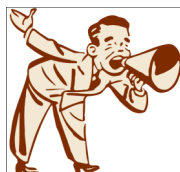


## The Book Club

### BOOK CLUB MEETING JULY 24, 2019

First up was **Joe Clinton** who gave a summary of *Three Days in Moscow: Ronald Reagan and the Fall of the Soviet Empire* by Brett Baier. While the title is a bit of overstatement and the book casts a very favorable light on the former president, it nevertheless provides a good background of Reagan's early life and political rise to the presidency and his sunny yet seemingly aloof personality. It focuses on his working relationship with his counterpart Mikhail Gorbachev of the Soviet Union after years of back and forth cold posturing between Washington and the Kremlin. The two developed a mutual trust over time leading up to Gorbachev inviting Reagan to speak to an audience at Moscow State University on May 31, 1988 where he spoke hopefully of new possibilities as "Americans seek always to make friends of old antagonists". In subsequent discussion by the group some wondered if since Brett Baier is chief political anchor of Fox News he may have burnished some of Reagan's contributions. A not uncommon thought in general regarding authors and subject matter

**Ed Schlachman** next reviewed *How Democracies Die* by Steven Levitsky and Daniel Ziblatt. This book draws a parallel between Donald Trump's presidency and a number of other democracies that fell largely because of autocratic rule. It begins with an historical review by tracing how democratic populism in countries like Peru, Chile, Libya and Venezuela ultimately turned into tyranny by strong-armed demagogues. Part of the book describes almost wistfully the way political conventions used to select presidential candidates in "smoke-filled rooms", since it seemed to eliminate those who were outside the party stream in the first place. From there it acknowledges that while Trump didn't cause the threat he has accelerated it as we have evolved into extreme party polarization to the extent that even the Republican establishment has failed to stand up to Trump. As we saw in the discussion of *Three Days in Moscow* the question again came up on the political bent of the author. Both Levitsky and Ziblatt are professors of government at Harvard, recently wrote an op-ed column "Is Donald Trump a Threat to Democracy?" and the book is openly critical of Trump. Yet it does provide context for a provocative hypothesis. There will be no August meeting. In September we will regroup and discuss the play *Juno and the Paycock* by Sean O'Casey. There will be no August meeting. In September we will regroup and discuss the play *Juno and the Paycock* by Sean O'Casey.



## Public Discussion Group

The meeting on July 10 began with a discussion of including a citizenship question on the 2020 census. Many views were expressed, but as this was not a listed topic for the day, we all agreed to postpone it until the next meeting so members could research the issue more thoroughly.

The group then turned to the first listed topic, "Is China a Threat to the US?" Interestingly, most seemed to feel that China did pose a threat but not an existential one. China will be a significant competitor and will likely overtake the US in terms of GDP in a decade or so. Much of this reflects the speed of China's industrialization as well as its extensive theft of intellectual property and its restrictions on foreign ownership of companies. Investments require a local partner and this has facilitated the transfer of technology to China. Additionally, China is investing heavily in future focused areas like I.T., automation and renewable energy. Most felt that if the playing field were level the US could compete effectively. One area where US and Chinese interests do clash is in the South China Seas. China is expanding its claims of sovereignty over the international water ways there and this could create a potential confrontation with the US. Because of mutual economic interdependence this is not likely to happen, but nonetheless will likely create tension and "games of chicken."

We then had a very brief discussion of "Transgender." Since this category constitutes a miniscule part of the population, some felt it should not be an issue. Others pointed out implications for tax cost if serving in the military and for litigation over anti-discrimination laws.

The group next looked at the question of whether the younger generation had substantially different values from our generation's. Some members felt the "millennials" felt entitled- free health care, free education, etc. Others noted that we too got similar criticism when we were the younger generation! Nonetheless, there was broader agreement that the lessons of the "Depression generation"- postpone gratification and work hard first to earn something- were wearing off. Time will tell what lessons the younger generation will pass on and where they learned those lessons.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, August 14 at 9:30 am at Larkin House. The topics will be: "Should a citizenship question appear on the decennial census?" and "Is fake news really a problem?" All members are invited to attend.

**Tom Butler**



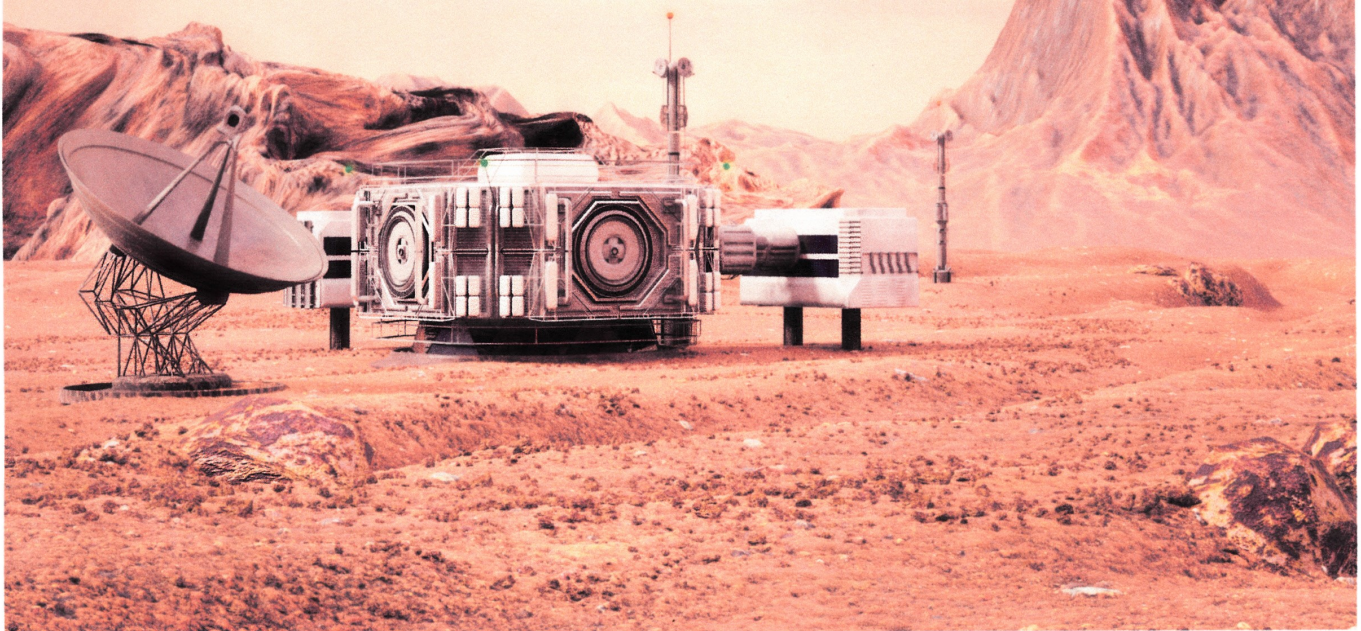
# **MISSION TO MARS?**

## **A VIEWING AND DISCUSSION**

**Tuesday, August 20 at 2:30 PM**

**View three thought-provoking video lectures and join a lively discussion about the pros and cons of travel to and possible settlement of Mars. Refreshments will be served.**

**Please register online at [wyckofflibrary.org](http://wyckofflibrary.org), at the Reference Desk, or by phone at 201-891-4866.**



200 Woodland Avenue, Wyckoff, NJ 07481    201-891-4866    [wyckofflibrary.org](http://wyckofflibrary.org)