

Activities Unlimited

Volume XXXII Issue II

February 2018

Activities Unlimited General Meeting February 13, 2018 1:00 PM at the WRC Heneveld Hall



Our speaker for the February meeting will be our own **Joe Pullaro**, who will present “Bridges 101.” His talk will include a historic background of bridges in the United States with descriptions of the various types of bridges, their conditions, and explanations of why they are inspected, how they are inspected and tested, and what goes into the rehabilitation of older bridges, including arches, trusses and moveable structures. He will also discuss some notable bridge failures and the reasons why they failed. Joe worked on all of these bridges during his career.

Joe is a 1964 graduate of Stevens Institute of Technology. He has 50 years’ experience with the design of fixed and moveable bridges. His firm, Lichtenstein Consulting Engineers, (LCE) had 125 bridge engineers and conducted projects in 22 states. LCE specialized in inspection, testing, evaluation and retrofit of older complicated bridges, writing of bridge manuals, and forensic analysis of the causes of bridge failures.

Note from the President

The new AU Network, introduced at the January meeting, it has already had much activity. By use of the Network, members can reach out to other members to get information. So far we have seen requests for information on plumbers, CPA’s, cleaning people, prostate cancer support, homeless shelters and much more. If you have something you want to buy, sell or give away -- put it on the Network. If you need information on an illness, vacation plans, home services -- put it on the Network. Just send me an email at; jimwebb@optonline.net with your name, email address and phone number and I will get your request out to all our members.

Our clubs are the heart of Activities Unlimited. I encourage you to drop in on a club that you have not tried yet. You may find a new interest you did not know you had.

If you are going to the General Meeting or any club event, please contact another member and encourage him to join you! Personal contact is the best way to increase participation in the Clubs.

At the General Meeting in the next few months we will be putting the spotlight on individual clubs. In February, it will be the Bridge Club. Stop at their table in the back of the room and talk to them. Maybe you will be playing bridge or hiking soon.

Jim Webb, President

Membership Dues

Membership dues of **\$50.00**, for 2018 were due **December 31, 2017**. If you have forgotten, Please send your check as soon as possible, payable to “**Activities Unlimited**” to: **Douglas Cooper, 15 David Alan Way, Montville, NJ 07045**

AU WEB-SITE:

Note that the AU web-site is updated every month. On the web-site you can find:

1. Monthly club meetings (under “Activities”)
2. The monthly calendar,
3. The monthly Newsletter (in fact you can view any newsletter back to 2012),
4. Listing of all upcoming Trips & Tours,
5. Photos of the different events held by AU, and,
6. A complete listing of all members (it is password protected).

Visit AU’s website: www.activitiesunlimited.org



ACTIVITIES UNLIMITED

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION



2018 OFFICERS



Jim Webb
President
201-337-7982



Joe Pullaro
1st Vice President
201-337-0018



Vincent Tortorelli
2nd Vice President
201-447-3718



Howard Vogel
Secretary
201-612-2237



Mark Cohen
Treasurer
201-337-4198



Doug Cooper
Asst. Treas.
908-907-1112

| COMMITTEES & CLUBS | | | |
|--------------------|---|--|---|
| GROUP | CONTACT | PHONE | MEETING |
| AU Guys | John DeSantis | 201-447-0256 | |
| Book Club | Vince Tortorelli Joe Clinton | 201-447-3718 201-447-2261 | 4th Wed. 9:30 |
| Dup. Bridge | ED Foldessy | 201-327-5767 | Wed 1 pm Larkin House |
| Rub. Bridge | Bob Mulligan Dave Kampschmidt | 201-447-8837 201-405-2043 | M,F 1:00 pm Franklin Lakes Ambulance Building |
| Care-Concern | Doug Cooper Paul Hennion | 908-907-1112 201-891-4716 | |
| Chaplain | Rev Andy Kadzban | 201-485-8589 | |
| Chess | Bill Schultz | 973-525-0979 | 3rd Thru 9:30 |
| Computer | Don Kirkpatrick Ed Schlachman Fred Theile | 201-337-5666 973-423-1459 201-825-7541 | 3rd Wed. 10:00 |
| Gardening | Joe Lamela Rick Sneyers | 201-327-8137 973-248-6625 | 1st Wed.10:00 |
| Golf | Bruno Bissetta Bill Bryne | 201-891-7567 201-447-5064 | Tuesday Thursday |
| Hiking | Don Kirkpatrick Rick Sneyers | 201-337-5666 973-248-6625 | Mon 9:00 |
| | Fred Theile | 201-981-1811 | Mon 9:30 WRC |
| Historian | Victor Pizzolato | 201-612-0038 | |
| History | Pablo Catangay | 201-684-1217 | 4th Monday 1:00 pm |
| Investment | Al Connelly | 973-616-0755 | Thru after the AU General Meeting 9:30 |

| COMMITTEES & CLUBS | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| GROUP | CONTACT | PHONE | MEETING |
| Luncheon | John Abrahamsen | 201-848-8037 | |
| Membership | Walt Widmer Dick Hensch | 201-562-8666 201-891-1309 | |
| Newsletter | Lou Guarneri Dick Hensch | 201-847-1981 201-891-1309 | |
| Project Outreach | Marty McGonigle Joe Pullaro | 201-529-1941 201-337-0018 | |
| Photography | Murry Perl Sam Ohan | 201-261-7276 201-825-0437 | 1st Tuesday 10:00 am |
| Public Disc. | Walt Widmer Tom Butler | 201-562-8666 201-934-8161 | 2nd Wednesday 9:30 am |
| Refreshments | Jim Forbes John Gannaway | 201-825-0523 201-485-7881 | |
| Science | Jack Yurasek | 201-337-4433 | 3rd Tuesday 10.00 am |
| Skiing | Bud Brooks Jack Yurasek | 201-327-6649 201-337-4433 | Snow |
| Sponsor Liaison | Jim Mallen | 201-485-8589 | |
| Stock Market | Mark Cohen John Abrahamsen | 201-337-4198 201-848-8037 | 2nd Tues. 9:00 am 4th Tues. 9:00 am |
| Tennis | Dave Burleigh Bob Meyers | 201-762-3707 310-254-8699 | M,W,F |
| Transport. | Frank Nusspickel | 201-891-9099 | |
| Trips/Tours | Lou Guarneri Don Wasson | 201-847-1981 201-891-1873 | Morning of AU General Meeting 10:30 am |
| Web-Master | Don Kirkpatrick | 201-337-5666 | |

At the January meeting \$132.00 was collected for the Wyckoff Reform Church Food Pantry.

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

The deadline for March 2018 Newsletter articles is 5 PM Friday February 25, 2017. When submitting articles please use font: Times New Roman 11 pt. (not bold). Email: lguarneri03@gmail.com and jrhensch62@gmail.com or mail to: **Lou Guarneri**, 128 MacLeish Court, Mahwah, NJ 07430

welcome New Members

| Name (Spouse) | Address | Employment | Interests | Phone/Email |
|------------------------------|---|---------------|--|--|
| Douglas R Malcolm (Carol) | 917 Laurie Lane Franklin Lakes, NJ 07417 | Self Employed | Discussion Group, Histori- an AU, History Club, Photography and Trips & Tours | Phone: 201-848-7606 Email: dougmlcoln@optonline.com |
| Tony Mastandrea | 256 Davidson Ave. Ramsey, NJ 07446 | Teacher | | Phone H: 201-329-8832 C:201-248-3833 |

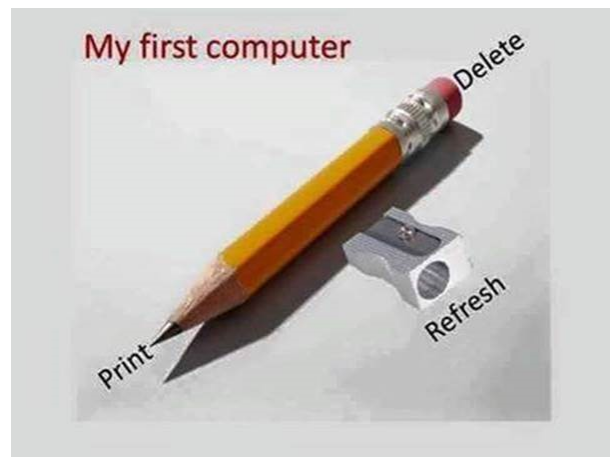


Duplicate Bridge Results

| | | 1st | 2nd | 3rd |
|-------|----|----------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 12/27 | NS | Mahmarian/Peck | Martin/Page | Boylan/Zelhof |
| | EW | Desrosiers/Groesbeck | Milcos/Spence | Anand/Fodessy |
| 1/3 | NS | Anand/Mahmarian | Rock/Smith | Groesbeck/Meloro |
| | EW | Levin/Yampell | Altamuro/Milcos | Bartlett/Spence |
| 1/10 | NS | Desrosiers/Freimuth | Anand/Sweetgall | Mahmarian/Milcos |
| | EW | Martin/Peck | Altamuro/Meloro | Yampell/Warner |
| 1/24 | NS | Bartlett/Yampell | Meloro/Smith | Martin/Spence |
| | EW | Barbera/Fodessy | Freimuth/Warner | Groesbeck/Lewis |

Obituaries

It is sad to report that AU member **Merlin Brockway** Passed away on January 3,2018



Public Discussion Group

We began our meeting with the controversial topic of “legalizing marijuana.” Attorney General Jeff Sessions had recently empowered Federal Prosecutors to enforce federal laws against states where the drug has been legalized. Currently, federal law classifies marijuana as a Schedule 1 drug, the same as heroin or cocaine. As issued, the AG’s ruling allows the 93 U S District Attorneys to enforce the law; whereas the previous instruction excluded recreational use from prosecution. It is not yet clear how aggressively enforcement will be pursued. There was a general consensus among the group that “medical marijuana” should be permitted. In addition, many felt that if the product could be federally regulated and controlled they might consider it’s being legal. The group noted the very important consideration of “state tax revenue” from the production and sale of marijuana. This factor may well be the decisive one.

The next topic dealt with the “President’s travel ban.” Some felt the large influx of immigrants coming from the specified countries would create problems in the future because of language and cultural differences. Generally it was agreed that the problem is one of assimilation. Until credible mechanisms for security checking are in place and then until there are locally provided means to ensure adequate job and language training, the ban may well be a sensible interim practice.

Topics for our February 14th meeting are: DACA; and Muslim population in Europe. Larkin House 380 Godwin, Wyckoff on February 1. All AU Members are invited to attend.



The Book Club

BOOK CLUB MEETING JANUARY 24, 2018

Lady Cop Makes Trouble by Amy Stewart was reviewed by **Joe Infosino**. This second novel by the author again takes place in 1915 and follows Constance Kopp, who lives in Wyckoff and is now a sheriff's deputy, as she gets herself in trouble by accidentally letting a prisoner escape. She tries to redeem herself by pursuing the conman with the help of her sisters while the story introduces some new colorful characters. A nicely paced read enjoyed by us all.

Lights Out: a cyberattack: a nation unprepared: surviving the aftermath by Ted Koppel, recommended by **Fred Thiele**, is a wake-up call by the journalist that describes the cascading catastrophe that would unfold should our country's electrical system, consisting of only 3 main grids, be sabotaged by an enemy cyberattack. Without electricity Koppel states that very shortly after wide outage, water runs out, batteries fade, supermarket shelves become bare, gasoline is not available, sewage is not pumped and it would take weeks if not months for repair since unlike previous outages help from neighboring territories would not be available and generators would be useless. He also writes how solutions/preparations for such an event are near non-existent by the government or civilians. A provocative read.

Scalia Speaks is a collection of 48 speeches given by Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia compiled shortly after his death by his son Christopher Scalia and his former law clerk Edward Whalen, and was recommended by Don Becan and summarized by **Vince Tortorelli**. They were given over the years at various functions and events Scalia was invited to and while most touched on some aspect of law, they also showed the more human, personal side of his character and how he viewed life both in and out of the Court. The book includes a warm forward by his good friend Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

Books for February:

The Sixth Extinction by Elizabeth Kolbert

1984 by George Orwell

Animal Farm by George Orwell

Books for March:

Win Bigly by Scott Adams

The Strange Death of Europe by Douglas Murray

The Voice of the Violin by Andrea Camilleri



The History Club

History Club meeting- February 26 at 1 PM, 3rd floor WRC

I will be presenting "The War of 1812" This event is probably the most obscure war that the United States has ever fought. The average American is only vaguely aware of this conflict. Even those who know something about it are likely to remember only a few dramatic moments like the Battle of New Orleans, the burning of Washington, D.C. and the writing of the "The Star-Spangled Banner." by Francis Scott Key. The war was obscure because no great president or great general were associated with it. Furthermore, the causes are complex and still subject to debate.

Some historian called it America's second war of independence. In addition, this was the nation's second and last struggle against Great Britain, the second and the last time it was underdog in a war, and the second and last time that it tried to conquer Canada.

You are all invited and hope to see you.

Pablo A. Catangay: 201-684-12-17; pcatangay@optonline.net



Investment Study

The January Investment Study Group meeting featured a panel from the AU Stock Club. They explained their processes for buying and selling stocks. They primarily base their buy/sell decisions on solid information from Value Line, a major stock information resource. They have a well defined portfolio management process. Decisions are made in their bi-monthly meetings by a group decision process. Because they meet twice a month their decision process is calibrated for long term growth. Despite, or maybe because, they have such good data, they sometimes have strenuous discussions.

Mark Cohn, the Stock Club Chairman, and members **Ed Schlachman**, **Kurt Coster**, and **John Abrahamsen** talked through their excellent Power Point presentation.



The Computer Technology Club

Computer Technology Club – January 17, 2018 Meeting

There were 20 AU Members in attendance at the Wednesday, January 17, 2018 meeting of the Computer Technology Club ... this was a good turn-out as we had snow on the morning of the meeting. The meeting topics included a variety of items with the focus of the meeting being the introduction of a new meeting segment called “Ask John” where John Abrahamsen will address weekly questions from the members attending the meeting. Initially the questions will be on Windows 10 but will be expanded to include Apple products in the future.

The meeting kicked off with a look at several technology oriented topics. The first was a look at Turboscan a new app for your smartphone ... this app facilitates scanning documents with your smartphone and creating a PDF file that can be emailed, etc. Next, we viewed a video on Drone Weaponry a new mode of warfare ... it was super scary and highlighted how far technology has come and how it now will affect the future of warfare. This followed with a video on Bitcoin Mining which explored the amount of electricity used to mine new bitcoins ... very interesting and scary as to the amount of computer power is being consumed by this new financial category that most people know very little about and understand what it is.

Then we looked at several items included on the AU’s Web-site, new items added to the Computer Page Reference section and to the Helpful Tips section. We also, explored several other sections of the AU Web-Site to let those in attendance know what is out on the AU Web-Site. This included pointing out to those in attendance where the new “Ask John” information will be posted ... it will be part of the Helpful Hints page.

We also covered several other areas partially as a review ... this included a look at Dropbox, the AU Photo Roster, Creating a PDF document and the setup of Folders. This section also looked at a new and different Browser called “Duckduckgo” This section of the meeting consumed quite a bit of time as we also addressed the definition of what a browser was, what a search engine is and several other related areas. I have attached two articles that addresses these topics, the first is “What is the difference between webpage, website, web server and search engine” and the second article entitled “Difference between search engine and browser”

As with other items we discuss at our CTC Meetings all key items discussed are posted to the AU Website on the Computer Technology Page (reference section) or under Helpful Hints section.

I would like all to think about future topics as we need to pin down our topics for our meetings for February, March and April 2018. I have received several topics but could use more please send your thoughts to me by email.

Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 21, 2018 at 10AM. The main topic for this meeting has not been determined. I will send out the agenda for this meeting prior to the meeting. Thanks,

Donald A. Kirkpatrick (201-759-3795) or dakirkpt@verizon.net



Science

The Science Club

At the January meeting, Murray Perl gave an outstanding presentation starting with the history of vaccines, and how their use has essentially eliminated childhood diseases. The statistical evidence supporting vaccines is undeniable, although attempts, even today are being made to minimize their effectiveness. He then reviewed how science in general, is being distorted, and that how it is imperative the quality of any source of information be evaluated before being accepted.

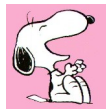
At the February 20th meeting we will continue the DVD series called 'Modern Physics for Non-Scientists', a course prepared by Professor Richard Wolfson of Middlebury College. This program from the Great Courses Series, reviews the fundamental ideas of physics starting in the year 1900 and leads to relativity and quantum physics. These lectures will continue with Electricity and Magnetism and Electromagnetic waves and the Speed of Light leading to Special Relativity. Response to the first DVD was very positive, with members anxious to attend future DVDs.

Note that we also have DVDs on other interesting areas, which are available for members to view; these include the Hubble Telescope (astronomy), and Particle Physics (for Non-Physicists).

On March 20th we plan to join the Trips and Tours Group carpool trip to the Liberty Science Center to visit the new Planetarium. The Planetarium is entirely digital, creating its sky show by means of 10 very high resolution projectors. Lunch is available for purchase in their cafeteria, with the group rate of \$21 for admission to all exhibits and one of the two Planetarium shows. Arrangements for the trip will be made at February meeting.

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

Jack Yurasek (201-337-4433) Email--JYURASEK@AOL.COM



The Lighter Side

A little silver-haired lady calls her neighbor and says, "Please come over here and help me. I have a killer jigsaw puzzle, and I can't figure out how to get started."

Her neighbor asks, "What is it supposed to be when it's finished?"

The little silver haired lady says, "According to the picture on the box, it's a rooster."

Her neighbor decides to go over and help with the puzzle.

She lets him in and shows him where she has the puzzle spread all over the table.

He studies the pieces for a moment, then looks at the box, then turns to her and says, "First of all, no matter what we do, we're not going to be able to assemble these pieces into anything resembling a rooster."

He takes her hand and says, "Secondly, I want you to relax. Let's have a nice cup of tea, and then," he said

.
.
.

"Let's put all the Corn Flakes back in the box."

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.**

Love is in the air on Valentine's Day, Wednesday, February 14, 2018. Time: 11am-3pm. Come and enjoy the things you love.....people, food, entertainment and dancing, at The Stony Hill Inn with music by Joe Zisa and "Friends." Luncheon menu includes two drinks, soup, salad, chicken Francese, baked glazed ham, vegetable, potato, dessert, coffee, tea, soda. Cost is \$46 pp. Mail checks payable to Activities Unlimited to:
Bob LaSalvia, 80 Glasgow Terrace, Mahwah, NJ 07430, Tel: 201-529-4784

Tuesday, March 20th, 2018: Trip to Liberty Science Center in Jersey City. We will carpool from WRC leaving at 10:30 am sharp for the Liberty Science Center. If you are planning to go directly to the science center, please be there no later than 11:30 am. All attendees must be present at 11:30 am to enter as a group. There are no individual tickets.. Once inside we will have lunch (on your own) at their café or you can brown bag your own lunch, a seating area is available at the center. After lunch the group will attend the new planetarium show (note: there is only one show). After the show you are free to view the other exhibits own you own and leave when you and those traveling with you wish. The cost of admission and the show is \$20.00 pp. All family members and friends are invited. Send your check for \$20 per person made out to Activities Unlimited to: **John Caikowsky**, 26 Donna Drive, East Hanover, NJ 07936. John can be reached at: 973-599-1056, magnjohn@optonline.net
NOTES: Please include your cell phone number
All checks must be received by 3/5/2018 any checks received after that date will be placed on a waiting list. If you will be going directly to the Science Center, please advise us and the names of anyone traveling with you. Plan to be at the Science Center by 11:30 am .
If you will be meeting us at WRC, will you be willing to drive or need a ride? Be at WRC by 10:15 am. Parking at the Science Center is \$9.00 per car. It is suggested that each passenger give \$5.00 to the driver.

THURSDAY, April 26, 2018 -- Museum of the American Revolution

Bus leaves WRC at 8:30 am. 1:00 pm - we will have a guided tour of the museum, followed by a program about Philadelphia- the Revolutionary City. We will also have the opportunity to see George Washington's actual battle tent. Time will be available before the tour for lunch on our own, either in the museum's cafeteria (prepackaged items) or in local restaurants. Local restaurant information will be available on the bus. Return to WRC about 5:30. Price \$60.00 pp. **MUST HAVE RESERVATIONS BY APRIL 10th**. Open to members , spouses and significant others. Please send checks, payable to Activities Unlimited, to:
David Voehl, 153 Konner Av. Pine Brook, NJ 07058.
For more information call 973-227-6981 (Cell – 973-865-8705). Please include your cell phone number with check.

Tuesday, May 8th, 2018: — Annual Spring Luncheon/Dance at Indian Trails

Other trips and events in the planning stage for 2018:

NYC tour
Lake Hopatcong boat tour and lunch
Multi-day trip to Blue Ridge Mountain area
Wine Tasting
Oktoberfest
Christmas Dinner/Dance