



Activities Unlimited
Due to the Coronavirus,
All AU Meetings are Canceled Until Further Notice

NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I pray all AU members and their families are doing well during this COVID-19 crisis. In addition, I hope you have found ways to overcome the isolation and boredom. Many, I know, are doing home projects that they have been putting off in the past. We certainly miss the interaction we have had in AU.

At this point we are still uncertain what the path forward is to the new normal and how we will be able to conduct our AU Clubs and Activities. We know given our ages and being more vulnerable that many will want to see a vaccine developed and given before we put ourselves in close proximity to others in meetings and on buses.

As I mentioned in last month's Newsletter we have been experimenting with Video Conferencing. The Stock Club has used it successfully with their Executive Board Members and are planning a Zoom meeting call with all Club Members. (A Summary of their experience to date is included in this Newsletter.) The AU Board on April 14th conducted a successful 2 hour meeting using Zoom. We have introduced Zoom to the History and Book Club Chairmen and are working with the Computer Club to conduct a meeting using Zoom. We realize that some members may not have the minimal equipment in their home to participate or have no interest in involving themselves through video technology. But given the uncertainty of when and how we get back to a new normal, we feel this is the best way to sustain our clubs and AU.

Before I end this note, I want to repeat what I stated in the April Newsletter. The AU Board and I encourage all of you to follow best health practices recommended by government and health agencies. If you have any questions, about best health practices, you can call any member of the AU Board and we can direct you to where you can find answers to your questions. Our phone numbers are on the second page of this Newsletter.

Please be safe.

Bob Dauer, President

For more information about ZOOM, see the articles on Page 4:

ZOOM, WHAT IS IT?

HOW THE AU STOCK MARKET CLUB PLANS TO OPERATE DURING THIS CRISIS

Click this link for instructions on how to connect to an AU Club meeting:

<http://www.activitiesunlimited.org/Zoom%20You%20are%20invited.pdf>

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



ACTIVITIES UNLIMITED

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION



2020 OFFICERS



Bob Dauer
President
201-327-9247



Mark Cohen
1st Vice President
201-337-4198



Doug Cooper
2nd Vice President
908-907-1112



Dave Voehl
Secretary
973-227-6981



Jeff Mohn
Treasurer
201-261-1219



Marty Valerio
Assistant Treasurer
201-262-8966

Obituaries



Sadly it is time to say goodbye to three special friends and bridge players: **Charlie Page, Quentin Wiest and Joe Mac Dougall**. They will be deeply missed.

Charlie Page passed away at the Christian Healthcare Center from prostate cancer at the age of 94. He always had kind words and smiles for all of those in the duplicate bridge club whether they deserved it or not. And he also made sure we had delicious cookies and cakes to keep up our strength during the "grueling" weekly competitions.

Quent Wiest also passed away at the Christian Health Center in Wyckoff at the age of 107. With a career in engineering, Quent thrived in everything he put his mind to. His easy going mannerism belied a deep competitive spirit. Quent was probably the best player in the AU Duplicate bridge group year in and year out. He also excelled in the Hobbyist Unlimited rubber bridge group as well as in its bowling League.

Legend has it that he bowled a near-perfect game in his 90s at the Hobbyist league. At the age of 100, he averaged almost 135 in the bowling group, not bad even for a man in his twenties. In 2016, his last full year of playing duplicate bridge, Quent, at the age of 104, took top honors for the year, scoring almost 55% of the points available to him during the year. And to do that he had to overcome the lesser play of many of his randomly assigned partners. And, Quent being Quent, never showed resentment when a partner blundered at the bridge table. His play was once featured in a New York Times bridge column.

Quent didn't shy away from anything. He was often caught shoveling light snows from his driveway even into his early hundreds. Dick Freimuth remembered Quent phoning him. "He called me up one day and wanted to know the name of a roofer, he said he was on the ladder checking his gutters and saw he needed some roof repairs".

Joe Mac Dougall, who was 89, also left a major mark on the AU Duplicate Bridge group. He chaired the club for many years despite medical problems that forced him to take weekly dialysis treatments. Joe loved the bridge group and came as often as he could with his medical issue. Bridge helped a little to fill a void when his wife, Dorothy, died in 2016 after 61 years of marriage. Joe was born in Brooklyn, attended St. Francis Prep. and CUNY, Brooklyn. Before retiring he worked for Goldman Sachs.

Because of the virus crisis, we weren't able to say a proper goodbye. Their spirit will remain alive in our memories. Please keep their families in your prayers.

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.**

Due to the Coronavirus

All Trips and Tours are on Hold, Canceled or Rescheduled

Rescheduled to September 15, 2020 TUESDAY, May 12, 2020 Annual Spring Luncheon/ Dance at Indian Trail Club,

Franklin Lakes, NJ. Doors open at 12:00 noon. Buffet lunch served at 12:30pm. Music by the AU Guys Band. Please sign up as early as possible so we can set the number of tables required. The price is \$29.00 per person. Wives/significant others are invited. Make checks payable to: Activities Unlimited and mail to: **Doug Cooper**, 15 David Alan Way, Montville, NJ 07045. Any questions contact Doug at 908-907-1112 or dcoop1025@yahoo.com. We look forward to seeing you there.

CANCELED Tuesday, June 2, 2020 - AU WINE TASTING We will hold the AU WINE TASTING event, from 5:30 PM – 8:30 PM at **TOTAL WINE, 1001 Main Street,**

River Edge, NJ, (right off Route 4). It will be a fun AU social gathering with pizzas being served (soda & water is also available). Wives/significant others are invited. This event sold out very fast last year. We only have room for 40 people, so send in your checks for \$15 pp ASAP payable to Activities Unlimited to:
George Lewis, 45 Walnut Street West, Mahwah, NJ 07430

On Hold July, 2020, Seeing eye dog training facilities

On Hold Wednesday, August 19, 2020, Lake Hopatcong BOARDWALK BARBECUE at the Jefferson House.

Drive to the **JEFFERSON HOUSE on Lake Hopatcong** for a great summer event. Live entertainment, a narrated pontoon boat ride of the lake and a fabulous barbecue. The buffet feast will consist of Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, BBQ Chicken, Ribs, Sausage and Peppers, Potato Salad, Macaroni Salad, Cole Slaw, Corn on the Cob and Cake. Beverages will include Beer, Wine, Soda, Coffee and Tea. Car Directions will be posted prior to trip. Car Pooling and Caravans may also be incorporated for the short ride to arrive by 11 am. Cost is \$ 42.00 per person. Mail checks payable to "Activities Unlimited" to: **Dick Botta**, 413D. Bromley Place, Wyckoff, NJ 07481. Please include your cell phone number with check. Questions call Dick: 201-848-9001.

On Hold September, 2020, AU Annual Social

On Hold October, 2020, AU Breakfast

On Hold October, 2020, Brownstone Lunch/Show

Wednesday, December 9, 2020, Christmas Dinner/Dance at Seasons.

ZOOM, WHAT IS IT?

Zoom is a conferencing video Application (App). It is a platform that allows for Video Meetings, Video Webinars, Conferencing Rooms, and Chatting.

For us at AU, it may provide us with ways to interact with each other under the “new normal” until this epidemic is done and behind us. It can also allow for personal (family) interactions until we can truly reach out and touch someone again physically.

Zoom has an amazing amount of functionality. Beside hearing and seeing members who are participating, you can show presentations with slides, Word Documents, Excel Spreadsheets or Power Point.

Our approach will be to introduce Video Conferencing gradually to each Club Chairman and then to club members. Each Club will have a Video “expert” to process and run the call. It should not be the Club Chairman as he should focus on actually running his meeting content. Club members will be introduced to video basics so they can interact.

It is not too difficult to learn the basics and it requires you have a device (Smart Phone, Tablet, or Personal Computer) which is equipped with a microphone and camera so we can hear and see each other.

There are some really good tutorials that you can look at to get an education on everything that Zoom can do. Click the link below (or you may need to copy and paste it into your URL in the internet):

<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/206618765-Zoom-Video-Tutorials?ga=2.119175437.523955255.1583939667-604168186.1583344621>

Should you find this type of application interesting and want to get started, you just need to go to the Application Store on your device and download Zoom for Meeting.

Should you have any questions you can always contact me.

Mark Cohen

Mark.cohen6222@gmail.com

HOW THE AU STOCK MARKET CLUB PLANS TO OPERATE DURING THIS CRISIS

COVID-19 and Social Distancing has just about ended all AU meetings and activities for the duration of this crisis. Question is how do we keep AU and its many activities going and ready to come back when Social Distancing and Stay at Home policies end?

The AU Stock Market Club is experimenting with video conferencing using the Zoom For Meeting software. So far it has held four meetings on Zoom with the Working Group of six members. These meeting were successful in learning the basics such as downloading the Zoom App, starting a meeting and carrying on a dialog. It is fairly easy to use, at least the basic features.

Next steps include getting as many of the 22 members to download the App, testing the use of the software and scheduling a meeting with as many members as care to attend. The first meeting will just go over the protocols for a meeting and to get everyone comfortable using this format. If successful, regular meetings will be held.

We do not expect this format to replace or be as effective (and as enjoyable) as in person meetings. However, it will keep members informed and engaged and will provide some degree social interaction. The AU Executive Board is also experimenting with Zoom meetings as may other AU Clubs. We will keep everyone informed as to how well it is working. Till then, stay safe and healthy.

Frank Nusspickel