

Activities Unlimited

Volume XXXV Issue V

May, 2021

Activities Unlimited

Due to the Coronavirus, AU General Meetings will be held via Zoom

**Activities Unlimited
General Meeting
Tuesday, May 11, 2021
1:00 PM via ZOOM**

Speakers: Costa Rodis & Felicia Halpert, Bergen IT LLC

Topic: Be Happy at Home: Enjoying Your TV, Movie, & Listening Experience

Costa Rodis & Felicia Halpert own Bergen IT LLC, a leading tech support and services company based in Glen Rock, NJ. The husband-and-wife team have worked in the information technology industry for nearly forty years, and Bergen IT was founded in 2009.

The business is dedicated to helping small businesses, professionals, and homeowners to be secure, productive, and happy using technology in their work and home lives. Bergen IT focuses on computer support and security; hardware & software training; audio, TV, & smart home installations; and Wi-Fi & networking improvement.

Bergen IT has been a *201 Magazine* Best of Bergen Award winner or finalist for the past three years. The company is also a multi-year winner of an Angie's List Super Service award. Costa and Felicia have lived in NJ since 1998. They have three children.

With all of us spending so much time at home, the need to use technology successfully and safely has never been more important. Whether we work, play, or learn from home, the experience is frequently dependent upon how well the tech performs.

Everyone wants to be happy at home using their technology. But the definition of tech happiness varies depending upon an individual's needs and interests. This session will focus on some of the ways using technology can increase happiness – and not just frustration. It will include recommendations on types of equipment to consider and discuss whether it makes sense to “cut the cord” with your cable provider

NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Let's start gearing up for an AU comeback. Can you smell the hamburgers on the barbeque? You all should have received the invitation to the Barbeque with the YMCA scheduled for June 16th. When I sent out a survey to everyone last month, I received over 60 very positive replies. This is great and I hope to see you all there as our renaissance continues.

I hope you have all received the vaccinations. And, now having gotten them are now once again seeing friends and family. A good number of our members are reporting they have completed getting theirs.

We continue to communicate and running our clubs/activities via Zoom. We continue to examine and experiment the concept of hybrid meetings. This will be where some will participate physically at the VFW in Midland Park and the others will still be able to join by Zoom. Contact the Club Chairmen, myself or any Board Member with questions.

Remember, as the weather improves, AU has a number of outside activities available. Take a look in the Newsletter to see what is offered. Please don't hold back, join in.

Make sure you read **Doug Coopers** column to the left where he tells you about our speaker for the May General Meeting on the topic of Current Technologies.

Remember, we can all succeed if we all participate.

Mark Cohen, President
201-337-4198
mark.cohen6222@gmail.com

The Activities Unlimited website is just a click away.

For the Home page, click here: <http://www.activitiesunlimited.org/index.html>

Click the link below for instruction on:

How to navigate the Activities Unlimited website:

http://www.activitiesunlimited.org/Introducing_AU%E2%80%99s_Website.pdf



ACTIVITIES UNLIMITED

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION



2021 OFFICERS



Mark Cohen
President
201-337-4198



Doug Cooper
1nd Vice President
908-907-1112



Harry Bennett
2nd Vice President
201-891-9527



Dave Voehl
Secretary
973-227-6981



Jeff Mohn
Treasurer
201-261-1219



Marty Valerio
Assistant Treasurer
201-262-8966

Obituaries

Longtime AU member **Ray Pondendorf** passed away on March 25th

AU member **John O'Brien** passed away on April 3rd.

Take a look at our club's activities.

Visit: "MEET THE CLUBS" on pages .5&6

You can also see the monthly activities of each club; click the link below for the activity you are interested in viewing.

For current club information and monthly activities, click on the link below.

<u><i>Sports & Games</i></u>	<u><i>Personal Interests</i></u>	<u><i>Social Activities</i></u>
Bridge http://www.activitiesunlimited.org/page28.html	Book Club http://www.activitiesunlimited.org/page18.html	AU Guys Band http://www.activitiesunlimited.org/page25.html
Golf http://www.activitiesunlimited.org/page12.html	History Club http://www.activitiesunlimited.org/page64.html	Care & Concerns http://www.activitiesunlimited.org/page26.html
Hiking http://www.activitiesunlimited.org/page13.html	Gardening Club http://www.activitiesunlimited.org/page20.html	Project Outreach http://www.activitiesunlimited.org/page40.html
Skiing http://www.activitiesunlimited.org/page17.html	Computer Technology Club http://www.activitiesunlimited.org/page45.html	Dinner/Dances http://www.activitiesunlimited.org/page38.html
Tennis http://www.activitiesunlimited.org/page16.html	Investment Study Club http://www.activitiesunlimited.org/page19.html	Transportation http://www.activitiesunlimited.org/page27.html
Pickle Ball http://www.activitiesunlimited.org/page16.html	Photography Club http://www.activitiesunlimited.org/page61.html	Trips and Tours http://www.activitiesunlimited.org/page29.html
Chess http://www.activitiesunlimited.org/page59.html	Public Discussion Group http://www.activitiesunlimited.org/page23.html	
	Stock Club http://www.activitiesunlimited.org/page22.html	
	Science Club http://www.activitiesunlimited.org/page24.html	



Trips & Tours



Trips, Tours & Special Events Calendar

Checks for these events, made payable to Activities Unlimited, are accepted at the monthly meetings.
Get your check in ASAP, don't wait 'til it's too late.

2021

SAVE THE DATE

Wednesday, June 16, 2021, — AU/YMCA BBQ. The party will start at 4:00 pm, come join us outdoors, under tents, for a late afternoon barbecue with bottled water provided, BYOB. AU is returning to in person activities and AU fellowship. We will adhere to masks and social distancing protocol. Corn hole, ping pong, bocce, and pickleball will be provided. And, music by the AU Band. Open to members, spouses or significant other.

Location: **Wyckoff YMCA, 691 Wyckoff Ave, Wyckoff, NJ. Rain date is Thursday, June 17, 2021.**

The cost is \$20 per person. Please send your checks payable to "Activities Unlimited" to:

John Caikowsky, 26 Donna Drive East Hanover, NJ 07936 Please include cellphone number on the check.

johncaikowsky@optonline.net 973-599+1056 **For further information see page 5**

Let's kick Covid-19 Let's Live Again

Activities Unlimited Comes to Life

As vaccinations for the Covid virus become more widely distributed, the AU clubs are starting to come back to live meetings.

We see a light at the end of the tunnel, and it is not a train. Many of our members have now completed their second vaccination for the Covid virus. We are now ready to, cautiously, begin to open our club meetings to face to face gatherings. Hybrid meetings (live plus Zoom) are the first step in defining our new normal. The Science Club held its first hybrid meeting on April 20. 12 members joined the meeting live, and 11 members attended the meeting via zoom. The History Club will hold their May meeting as a hybrid meeting. Trips & Tours will hold its June 9th meeting live.

Future live events will include an outdoor barbeque with the Wyckoff Y senior group on June 16th. Our traditional spring luncheon at the Franklin Lakes Indian Trails Club has now been scheduled for September 14th. Our fall breakfast at the Brick House is on schedule for October 12th. Stay tuned for updates on our Christmas event.

VFW located at 28 Fanner Road in Midland Park becomes our new meeting Venue.

During this down time, we have been addressing the safety, convenience, and economic needs of our membership. To that end, arrangements have been made with the VFW of Midland Park to use their facility for our club meetings. We have use of the building on all Tuesdays and Wednesdays. The facility has a large meeting room on a walk-in first floor, with a kitchen and internet plus WIFI projection capability. The normal capacity of the room is 160. Even at 50% capacity limits we can easily accommodate our club meetings.

New Club Meeting Schedule.

Moving club meetings into one venue on Tuesdays and Wednesdays has necessitated some adjustment to meeting schedules. Appreciation is extended to all club chairmen for accommodating these changes. Individual club chairmen will determine when live meetings resume.

The following chart shows our revised schedule of club meetings. Planned meeting start dates are shown in parenthesis.

Monthly Club Meeting Schedule		
	VFW	VFW
Week	Tuesday (start date)	Wednesday (start date)
1st	8:30 Stock Club (TBD) 10:30 Photo Club (TBD) 1:00 Dup. Bridge (TBD)	9:00 - 12:00 Au Band (current) 1:00 - Garden Club (TBD)
2nd	10:00 Trips & Tours (6/9) 12:00 - Gen Meeting at WRC	9:00 - 12:00 AU Band (current) 1:00 Public Discussion Club (TBD)
3rd	8:30 Stock Club (TBD) 10:30 Science Club (4/20) 1:00 Dup. Bridge (TBD)	9:00 -12:00 AU Band (current) 1:00 Investment Club (TBD)
4th	10:00 History Club (5/25) 1:00 Dup. Bridge (TBD)	9:00 - 12:00 AU Band (current) 1:00 - Computer Club (TBD)

While we await the WRC to reopen, there will be alternate arrangements of other functions:

Book Club and Computer Club will remain Zoom meetings.

General Meetings will be via Zoom for May and June. The July General Meeting will be a hybrid meeting from the VFW.

The Board meeting for May will be a hybrid meeting from the VFW.

When the Public Discussion Club returns to live meetings, Zoom conferences will be discontinued.

Access to VFW Building

AU has two keys to the VFW. **John DeSantis** is responsible for opening and closing on Wednesdays. Harry Bennett is responsible for opening and closing on Tuesdays.

Timing and Rules for Live (Hybrid) Meetings.

As noted, Science Club, History Club and Trips & Tours have already set the starting dates for live meetings. All other club chairmen will set their individual starting dates.

All members who decide to attend live meetings must have completed their Covid vaccination and be prepared to produce their vaccination card.

Training and Tour.

A training and tour meeting has been scheduled at the VFW for all club chairmen on April 27th. Training will be conducted on use of the internet, WIFI and television projection systems.

For further information contact: **Harry Bennett**, harry.bennett@bennent.com



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THE JOINT EVENT BARBEQUE OF AU AND THE YMCA'S ACTIVE OLDER ADULTS IS SET:

DATE: JUNE 16, 2021 RAIN DATE: JUNE 17, 2021

TIME: 4PM-7PM

LOCATION: YMCA, 691 WYCKOFF AVENUE- OUTDOORS ON THE LAWN, UNDER TENTS

FOOD: TYPICAL BARBEQUE MENU. BOTTLED WATER PROVIDED, OTHER REFRESHMENTS BY ATTENDEES

ACTIVITIES: CORN HOLE, BOCCEE, PING PONG, PICKLE BALL

MUSIC BY AU BAND

COST \$20/PERSON

WIVES/SIGNIFICANT OTHERS INVITED

MASKS AND SOCIAL DISTANCING IN ACCORDANCE WITH STATE MANDATES

MAKE CHECKS OUT TO ACTIVITIES UNLIMITED AND SEND TO

**JOHN CAIKOWSKY
26 DONNA DRIVE
EAST HANOVER, NEW JERSEY
07936
973-599-1056
JOHNCAIKOWSKY@OPTONLINE.NET**

PLEASE INCLUDE CELL PHONE #

THIS IS OUR FIRST GATHERING IN A VERY LONG TIME. HOPE ALL CAN ATTEND. IT WILL BE A GREAT EVENT