



**Activities Unlimited
General Meeting**
Tuesday July 9, 2024, 12:00pm
Wyckoff Reformed Church Chapel, 580 Wyckoff Ave.

NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Please note that the July Social Hour and General Meeting will be held in the Wyckoff Reformed Church Chapel at 12:00pm. There will be no AU Guys presentation after the Social Hour. For General Meeting and the Social Hour we are welcoming our wives and significant others to enjoy the special musical presentation by Jack Warner. Jack is an AU Member who will be giving a presentation about the music from the Great Depression and World War II.

Summer is here. We just had a great barbecue held in the Allendale Red Barn. There were over 130 attendees at the barbeque. The weather was magnificent, and the Guys band was great. What more could we have asked for?

At the end of June, The Golf Club AU had its annual golf tournament, which was held at Farmstead Country Club. Everyone had a great time. This will be followed by our wine tasting event on July 18. Then we will have our annual Dinner Dance on December 2. Read your Newsletter and emails and stay informed about upcoming events.

REMEMBER, THERE IS NO GENERAL MEETING IN AUGUST.

Just a note that we can all succeed if we all participate.

In September, when you come back from our August break, we are having pizza at our General Meeting. This is just to say "thank you" to all of our members.

Have a great summer

James Atieh, President

The Food Pantry donations at the June General Meeting totaled \$50.

Happy Birthday America

Here she is on the threshold of her 200th birthday and still survives. Oh setbacks, she has had a few and been down on her knee more than once, but those experiences have just made her stronger. The casualties she suffered at Bunker Hill, Trenton, Saratoga and Concord taught her very early the price of freedom, but she let the word go forth to all nations, friend and foe alike, that the freedom so painfully gained would never be surrendered.

And how many times has she come to the aid of others seeking to preserve their freedom as we are so painfully reminded by the crosses which mark the simple graves of her soldiers in every corner of the world, the Argonne, North Africa, Guadalcanal, Korea, Vietnam... and doesn't it hurt when foreign friends we rushed to help chant "Yankee Go Home". If you ever stood on foreign soil and gazed upon the acres of our boys' gravesites you cannot help but to think, these Yankees can't go home. So why hasn't she learned to say no to the peoples of the world in need. Some nations simply close their ears and are lauded, but she opens her arms and is condemned. She simply refuses to turn a deaf ear to the famine struck people of Bangladesh or the earthquake victims of Nicaragua or Guatemala. Perhaps this is her manifest destiny. Yes, this lady has really had to withstand much criticism, just and unjust, both home and abroad. But how many nations would have the confidence to put a national scandal in their front window for the world to view. You can be certain not many.

And isn't it contradictory of her status, as a sovereign, that allows her people to criticize her, without fear of reprisal. How comforting it must be for her citizenry to know they can speak out against her, ridicule her, disgrace her, and yes, even step on her flag, and she will protect them if they choose to do it. What other sovereign would have the courage to allow so dangerous a precedent, in the name of freedom of speech. Yes, she has proved time and again, in the last 200 years, that a great nation is not one that succeeds with easy victories, but one that succeeds when defeat seems imminent. How is this more aptly illustrated, than when she was called up to preserve her own union, in a great Civil War where brother fought against brother and she survived, and skillfully claims the distinction as being the longest surviving republic among the world's 152 nations. To you we say, Happy Birthday America!

Adolf J. Galluccio 1976

At the May Executive Committee meeting the Board approved the below amendments to the By Laws.

In accordance with By Laws Article XI “Amendments” the by laws must be published in two prior Newsletters (in this case June and July) and announced at one General Meeting (June) before members vote at the September General Meeting.

Below is a listing of the proposed amendments to the current By Laws presently posted on the AU Website:

Page 5. By Law, Article III Duties of Officers, Section 6 Assistant Treasure. Deleted Care and Concern responsibilities noted in Section 6.4 due to an overlap of responsibilities with the Cares and Concerns Committee; see Article IV: Appointees, Section 3.2. Section 6 renumbered.

Page 7. Requirements for Cares and Concerns are mentioned twice, once in the By Laws and once in the Policies, Practices, and Procedures. To consolidate the requirements, the language in Policies, Practices, and Procedures Item 14, with modifications, was incorporated into By Laws, Article IV Appointees, Section 3.2 Cares and Concerns.

Page 7. By Laws, Article IV Appointees, Section 3.2, the chairman of the Cares and Concerns Committee shall be appointed each January by the President.

Page 7. Added By Laws, Article IV Appointees, Section 3.2.4; there is no term limit for the Chairman position.

Page 8. By Laws, Article IV Appointees, Section 3.3 Communications Committee; Section 3.3.3.3 establishes a procedure to notify membership of an active member’s passing.

Page 9. The Newsletter Editor position was moved from Policies, Practices, and Procedures to By Laws, Article IV, Section 4.0.

To Members: The Executive Committee requests your support in the approval of these amendments. Mark your calendar to attend the September General Meeting. Members can attend as many times as they want to show their support.

An amended copy of the By Laws, dated September 10, 2024 will be posted in the Archive section of Web page for review before voting at September’s General Meeting.



ACTIVITIES UNLIMITED



2024 OFFICERS



Jim Atieh
President
201-315-5346



Tom Donch
1st Vice President
201-376-8824



Gaspar Lesznik
2nd Vice President
201-774-8608



Rich Bernarde
Secretary
201-337-5238



Mike Kelley
Treasurer
973-879-4590



Scott Japko
Assistant Treasurer
201-788-5516

Following the Activities Unlimited General Meeting **Music of the Great Depression and World War II**

Tuesday, June 11th, 2024

Presented by AU Member-- Jack Warner

– Our parents lived through some pretty tough times. The Great Depression was followed almost immediately by World War II. That’s 15-years of worries, right in the prime of their lives!

- As children, we may not have appreciated how greatly these events impacted our parents, or asked ourselves how they ever managed to cope with such difficult forces beyond their control.

– One important way was in the music they listened to...the Hit Tunes specifically designed to bring comfort and solace...and to lift their spirits when they needed it most.

- In our program, you’ll get a glimpse what daily life was really like for your parents during those times...and get to experience the actual music that helped them see it through.

- Performing their Top Hits, you’ll both hear and see—Rudy Vallee, Bing Crosby, Ruth Etting, Jimmy Durante, Louis Armstrong and Ginger Rogers...Along with Kate Smith, The Andrew Sisters, Spike Jones, Vera Lynn, Glenn Miller, and more.

**The wives of the members are invited to attend this program.
Stick around for a nostalgic and uplifting musical treat.**



Trips & Tours

The next T & T meeting is on June 9:00am is at the Midland Park VFW Hall
Chair: John Caikowsky: 973-599-1056; johncaikosky@optonline.net

Upcoming events

Thursday, July 18 Wine Tasting – 6:00pm - 9:00 pm. This event will be held at Total Wine, 1001 Main Street, River Edge, NJ, (right off Route 4). It will be a fun AU social gathering with pizza (soda & water will also be also available). Wives & significant others are invited, so send in your checks for \$15 pp payable to Activities Unlimited. Send to George Lewis, 45 Walnut Street West, Mahwah, NJ. 07430. This event is sold out, but we will keep a waiting list.

PLUS: Total Wine always gives our attending members a 30% discount on any wine they buy that night.

Thursday, September 12, 2024 — The AU Annual Social will be held at the Upper Ridgewood Tennis Club, 915 Glenview Road, Ridgewood, NJ. The Social will be from 6:00pm to 9:00pm. Price and other details to follow. 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 other AU members in a casual social environment. No one will leave hungry as there will be plenty of food, wine, soda and water.

October 8— Annual Breakfast / General Meeting at the Brick House.

October 24—Octoberfest at The Brownstone, 351 West Broadway, Paterson, NJ. Join us for a fun afternoon of music and comedy by “The GB’s” band. They’ll entertain you with German drinking songs, make you laugh with hilarious jokes and get you up dancing with lively tunes, including polkas. Lunch includes 1 free alcoholic drink, soup, salad, knockwurst and sauerkraut, chicken entrée, vegetables, potatoes, dessert, coffee, tea. Beer and soda at the table. Wives and significant others are invited. Please make checks in the amount of \$59 per person (which includes tip) payable to Activities Unlimited. Send to Bob LaSalvia, 80 Glasgow Terrace, Mahwah, NJ 07430. PLEASE INCLUDE CELL PHONE NUMBER ON YOUR CHECK.

December 2 — Christmas Dinner Dance at Seasons. Details to follow.

AU Website Bulletin Board Update

Over the last few months, Harry Bennett AU Past President has led a team of AU Webmasters in developing a Bulletin Board to be the gateway when the AU Website is first Accessed (activitiesunlimited.org).

Our mission is to create a Bulletin Board that is helpful and easy to use.

- Provide quick access
- Expand availability of general interest information to AU members
- Provide links to Community Activities

While Bulletin Board is still under construction, it is available to view on the AU website. When you visit the Bulletin Board you will see:

1. Emergency notices (active but currently blank)
2. Alert notices (active)
3. Links to:
 - a. Classified ads (currently blank)
 - b. Club updates (active)
 - c. Trade service providers
 - d. Community activities (an assortment of links to local libraries, health and other community services.)

You are invited to explore this addition to our website. Let Harry (Harry Bennet @harrben7@gmail.com) know what you think. The Webmaster Team is open to all comments and suggestions!

Current Month Club Activities

AU Guys

The AU Guys Band meets Wednesdays at 10:00am at the Midland Park VFW Hall. The AU Guys Band is very active.

Chair: John DeSantis: blueiii.earthlink.net; 201-447-0256.
Co-Chair: Frank Altomare: 201-410-4712; frank@altomare.us

Book Club

Books to be discussed at the July Book Club meeting are *Accidental Presidents* by Jared Cohen, that looks at 8 men who came to the office without being elected and how the character of those men in that powerful seat affects the nation and the world. Also, *Leave the Gun, Take The Cannoli* by Mark Seal. The story of the making of *The Godfather* - one of America's most popular films, featuring interviews with the director, producer, cast and crew.

Peter's talk will be: **America's Struggle for Independence**

History Club

-How implausible was a victory against Great Britain, as George Washington said, "Great Britain is the mightiest empire on earth"

-Why was Washington the only indispensable person among many outstanding founders who could lead us to victory?

-How has Washington impacted the oldest and largest republic today?

Chair: Joe Pullaro: josephpullaro@hotmail.com; 201-357-0018. **Co-Chair: Gaspar Lesznik.**

Stock Picking Contest

The June monthly winner was Steven Klein. The month-to-month increase for this portfolio was \$162K or 12%. The year-to-date winner was Steven Howard with year-to date gain of \$172K.

Chair: John Abrahamsen: au.club@optimum.net

Current Month Club Activities (cont'd)

Computer-Tech. Club

There will be no Computer Tech Club or Technology Club meetings in July or August.

Chair: John Abrahamsen: au.club@optimum.net; 201-739-8589

Tennis Club

We play Monday, Wednesday, Friday at 10AM, weather permitting.

Come and have fun with the AU Tennis Guys at the Wyckoff Outdoor Courts.

Photography Club

There will be no Photography Club meeting July or August.

Chair Murray Perl: 201-446-7357; mdperl@gmail.com; 201-261-7276 **Co-chair: Sam Ohan:** samo993@verizom.net; 201-825-0437.

Investment Study Group

There is no Investment Study Group Meeting in July and August.

Chair: Dennis Labarbera; dennis.labarbera@yahoo.com

Stock Market Club

The AU Stock Market Club meets on the first and third Tuesday of each month. The Club meets at 9:00 am at the VFW Hall in Midland Park. The next Stock Market Meeting will be on July 2.

Chair: Frank Nusspickel:nusspickel@aol.com; 201-739-5773.

Co-Chair: Steve Klein:sikein7@aol.com; 201-264-1654.

Current Month Club Activities (cont.)

Science Club

There will be no, July, or August meetings for the Science Club.

Plans for the September Meeting are underway. We desperately need new presenters, with new topics for the Fall (thank you to those who did recently volunteer). Others, please contact Marc B, Harry B, or myself. We are available and anxious to help with presentation preparation in any manner requested.

Future Plans:

A trip to a Science Museum is being considered for the Fall.

Chair: **Jack Yurasek**: jjurasek@aol.com; 201-337-4433

Public Discussion Club

The next meeting of the Public Discussion Club will be July 10 at 10:00am. The meeting will take place in the Franklin Lakes Ambulance Corp. building. Topics are: 1. Should college students receive payment while a student. 2. Should Biden restrict the shipment of weapons to Israel?

Chair: **Walter Widmer**: WalterHWidmer@gmail.com; 551-286-4045;

Co –Chair: **Tom Butler**

Safe Shooting Club

There will be no in-person meetings this month. Shooting dates will be determined.

All AU members are invited.

Chair: **Dave Hubschmit**: ski3100@aol.com; 973-650-0052; Co-Chair: **Rich Beger**: gerrgb464@gmail.com

Golf Outing June 26

Farmstead Golf Course



SPRING BBQ ALLENDALE RED BARN JUNE 7



On The Lighter Side

Someone asked the other day...

'What was your favorite fast food when you were growing up?'

'We didn't have fast food when I was growing up, I informed him, 'All the food was slow.'

'C'mon, seriously. Where did you eat?'

'It was a place called 'at home,' I explained!

'Mom cooked every day and when Dad got home from work, we sat down together at the dining room table, & if I didn't like what she put on my plate, I was allowed to sit there until I did like it.'

By this time, the kid was laughing so hard I was afraid he was going to suffer serious internal damage, so I didn't tell him the part about how I had to have permission to leave the table.

Here are some other things I would have told him about my childhood, if I figured his system could have handled it:

Some parents NEVER owned their own house, wore Levis, set foot on a golf course, traveled out of the country or had a credit card.

My parents never drove me to school. I had a bicycle that weighed probably 50 pounds, and only had one speed, (slow).

We didn't have a television in our house until I was 10. It was, of course, black and white, and the station went off the air at 11. It came back on the air at about 6 a.m. And there was usually a locally produced news and farm show on, featuring local people ...

I never had a telephone in my room. Our only phone was on a party line. Before you could dial, you had to listen and make sure some people you didn't know weren't already using the line.

Pizzas were not delivered to our home... But milk was & so was bread.

All newspapers were delivered by boys and all boys delivered newspapers --my brother delivered a newspaper, six days a week. He had to get up at 5 AM every morning .

Movie stars kissed with their mouths shut. At least, they did in the movies! There were no movie ratings because all movies were responsibly produced for everyone to enjoy viewing, without profanity or violence or most anything offensive.

If you grew up in a generation before there was fast food, you may want to share some of these memories with your children or grandchildren.

Growing up isn't what it used to be, is it?