



# Activities



# Unlimited



Volume XXXVII, Issue V

May, 2023

**Activities Unlimited**  
**There will be no General Meeting in May**  
**however there will be the Spring Luncheon**  
**on May 9** (details below)



### President's Note

#### **STAY ACTIVE, STAY ALERT, HAVE FUN!!**

It is time for all couch potatoes to get active.

Activities Unlimited club meetings and special events are well underway. Attendance is growing. Join your fellow AU members to socialize and explore an activity that piques your interest.

There is an abundance of special events scheduled for the spring, starting with our Spring Luncheon on May 9th, the Wine Tasting on May 21st and our Barbecue Event at the Wyckoff "Y" on June 8th. The Trips and Tours team continues to make special events available to all members.

In our minds, we are getting younger every day. Try something new. Explore another AU club or activity. Take a hike, read a book, discuss current events. These and many more clubs are available to keep you young and engaged. This Newsletter will give you information about special events. The AU website ([activitiesunlimited.org](http://activitiesunlimited.org)) and special e-mailings can provide you with times and dates for all club activities.

If you are new to AU, take the initiative to say hello to a club officer or club chairman. You will be surprised to see how welcoming they are and how passionate they are about their special interests.

Be well and take time to smell the flowers,  
Harry Bennett,

The **Spring Luncheon** will be at the Indian Trail Club Lake House in Franklin Lakes. The Luncheon starts at 11:30 am. Please make checks for \$37 pp to Activities Unlimited. Mail to Tom Donch at PO Box 791 Franklin Lakes, NJ 07417 . Please join us for an afternoon of great food & camaraderie! The AU Guys Big Band will be performing at the starting at 12:00pm.

# ACTIVITIES UNLIMITED



## 2023 OFFICERS



**Harry Bennet**  
President  
201-891-9527



**Jim Atieh**  
1st Vice President  
201-315-5346



**Tom Donch**  
2nd Vice President  
201-315-5346



**Rich Bernarde**  
Secretary  
201-337-5238



**Mike Kelley**  
Treasurer  
973-839-6470



**Anthony Dilorgi**  
Assistant Treasurer  
973-428-0431

With the help and support of the Website Committee, the AU Website has been updated using current technology. There has also been great feedback from the AU Membership. The new website is available for all members and prospective members to use, read, and explore. The website can be accessed by typing “activitiesunlimited.org” into your Google or Microsoft Edge browser.

The new website is easy to use. To support the website the Computer Technology Club is sponsoring a demonstration of the new AU website on May 2nd at 10:30am at the Midland Park VFW Hall. After the presentation members of the Website team will conduct a workshop with AU members who bring a mobile device with them. Any portable device with access to Wifi is considered mobile.

### Welcome New Member

Name(Spouse)	Address	Interests	Phones/Email/(Occupation)
Scott C Feld (Mary Pulzone)	533 Jemco Pl Ridgewood, NJ 07450	Band, Computer, Gardening, Hiking Long, History, Invest- ment, Project Outreach, Pickle Ball, Science	H: 201-447-5859 C: 551-404-4557 scotcfeld@aol.com (Accounting CPA)

**The goal of the monthly Activities Unlimited Newsletter is to improve the lives of AU members through communication about and encouragement of participation in AU clubs and activities. The newsletter accomplishes this goal by increasing communications and comradery among members and growing the membership.**

**Tom Van Lenten, AU Newsletter Editor**



## Trips & Tours



### 2023 events being planned:

*May—Spring Luncheon* — See page 1 for details.

*May—Wine Tasting Sunday, May 21st from 2:00 PM – 4:30 PM . The 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 being served (soda & water are also available). Wives/significant others are invited. We only have room for 40 people, so send in your checks for \$15 pp ASAP payable to Activities Unlimited. Mail to George Lewis, 45 Walnut Street West, Mahwah, NJ 07430.*

*June— June 8 summer picnic at the Wyckoff YMCA Lake House, from 4:00pm—8:30pm. This is always a fun AU social gathering. Burgers, fried chicken, hot dogs, soda & desert are being served. Wives/significant others are invited. Send in your checks for \$30pp ASAP payable to Activities Unlimited. Mail to Joe Pullaro, 866 Iron Latch Rd. Franklin Lakes 07417*

*July Luncheon—*July 17 at the Portabello Italian Restaurant, 175 Ramapo Valley Rd., Oakland. Starts at 1:00 pm. Contact Don Wasson at 201-891-1873 or donwas@verizon.net. Menu and price TBD.

*September / October— Bus Trip to Culinary Institute in Hyde Park, N.Y. Date TBD.*

*September — AU Social.*

*October — Annual breakfast / General meeting at the Brick House.*

*December — AU Christmas Dinner / Dance at Seasons.*

*January 2024— Beefsteak at Brownstone, date TBD.*

John Caikowsky (as Club Chair) [johncaikowsky@optonline.net](mailto:johncaikowsky@optonline.net); 973-599-1056 has arranged to make all Midland Park Continuing Education events open to AU members. Several examples of such MPCE events available to us are:

- Give My Regards to Broadway (5/5) (\$149.00)
- The Bronx You Never Knew (5/16) (\$125.00)
- Longwood Gardens (5/18) (\$89.00)
- The Immigrant Experience (6/15) NYC (\$99.00)
- Essex Steam Train & Riverboat Cruise, Conn (6/22) (\$140.00)
- Cape Cod & Martha's Vineyard (6/26-30) (4 nights \$629pp)
- Pigeon Forge & Smokey Mountains (10/9-14) (5 nights \$839pp)

The complete list of MPCE events and more details on all of these events can be found at:  
 “[www.mpsnj.org/continuing\\_education/ programs/springbrochure](http://www.mpsnj.org/continuing_education/programs/springbrochure)”

## Current Month Club Activities

### Computer Tech. Club

Computer Club meets the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month at 10:30am at the Midland Park VFW Hall. The Club is sponsoring a demonstration of the new AU website on May 2 at 10:30am at the VFW Hall. After the presentation Club members will conduct a workshop with members who bring a mobile device with them.

Chair: **John Abrahamsen:** [au.club@optimum.net](mailto:au.club@optimum.net)

**Fred Theile** Chairs the Technology portion of the Club: 201-825-7541;

### History Club

The next History Club meeting is on May 23 at 1:00pm at the Midland Park VFW Hall. The speaker will be Tony Mastandrea. The topic: "The Origins of Fascism and Benito Mussolini".

### Public Discussion Club

The Public Discussion Club will meet on Wednesday May 10 at 10:00am. The meeting will be at the Franklin Lakes Ambulance Corps Building. Topics are TBD.

Chair: **Walter Widmer:** 201 562 8666; [walterhwidmer@gmail.com](mailto:walterhwidmer@gmail.com)

### Trips & Tours

The next meeting of Trips & Tours is on Tuesday May 9; the location of the meeting TBD. See page 2 of this Newsletter for description of the many great T&T events.

**John Caikowsky** is the Chair: 973-599-1056 or [johncaikowsky@optonline.net](mailto:johncaikowsky@optonline.net)

### Investment Study Group

The next Investment Study Group meeting is May 17 at 12:30pm at the VFW Hall, Midland Park. At this month's meeting the guest speaker will be Michael Gibney, CFP®, CAP®, AIF®, Principal and Wealth Manager Modera Wealth Management, LLC

Club Chair is **Dennis LaBarbera:** 201-391-0471 or email at [denis.labarbera@yahoo.com](mailto:denis.labarbera@yahoo.com).

### Webmaster Club

This new club was formed to support, test and discuss enhancements to the new AU website. At the first meeting details of the Webmaster club's activities were formulated. Contents of the Website were also discussed.

Chair: **John Abrahamsen:** [au.club@optimum.net](mailto:au.club@optimum.net)



## Current Month Club Activities (Cont.)

### Book Club

The May meeting of the Book Club will be held Wednesday May 24, 10 AM, at Walt Widmer's house, 38 Hamilton St., Allendale. Books to be discussed are The Call of the Wild by Jack London, the story of Buck, an Alaska sled dog, and Killing the Rising Sun by Bill O'Reilly, about World War II. All AU members are welcome to attend.

Chair: **Vince Tortorelli**: 201-447-3718; cavince@aol.com  
Cell: 201 316 2961

### Shooting Safety Club

The Shooting Safety Club meets on the fourth Wednesday of every month. at the VFW Hall in Midland Park. The next meeting is on Wednesday May 24th at 1:00pm.

Chair: **Dave Hubschmit**: (973-650-0052); ski3100@aol.com

### Photography Club

The meeting date is being moved from the first Tuesday of the month to the fourth Tuesday to accommodate the new twice a month schedule of the Computer Club. Therefore there will be no Photo Club meeting on May.

Club Chair is **Murray Perl** - 201-446-7357; mdperl@gmail.com

### Stock Picking Contest

Year-to-date leader is Timothy Hudson.

The April winner is Don Kirkpatrick.

The Club Chair is **John Abrahamsen**: au.club@optimum.net

Click > [www.activitiesunlimited.org/AUclubsPage.html](http://www.activitiesunlimited.org/AUclubsPage.html) to go to the web club page.

On Monday April 3 the Short Hikers hiked half way around Sterling Lake, to the beach, and back. At the beach, the hikers were surprised to find sun bathers (picture below), in April no less.





On April 20 the Garden Club and Short Hikers met at the Lauralwood Arboretum, in Wayne.





Jim, Fred and Don Wasson enjoying walking through the beautiful trails and gardens in the blooming Spring!!





On April 24 the Short Hikers hiked to the Welch Lake Dam. In 1942 the Palisades Interstate Park Commission built this dam that turned farmland into a 216 acre lake that is today Lake Welch.







At the Lake Welch camping area the hikers found a payphone. Hiker Rich Bernarde ran over to check the dial tone Rich looked for a dime to activate the phone, but no luck. Ah remember when!?!



On April 12 the Public Discussion Club met at the Franklin Lakes Ambulance Corps. Building. Lively discussions were had primarily about the relative strengths of Joe Biden and Donald Trump as President of the United States.



## On The Lighter Side



**I hate it when I see an  
old person and then  
realize that we went to  
high school together.**

After 2 weeks of quarantine with her husband, Gertrude decided to knit him a scarf..

