

Hobnobbing with

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1966

HOBBYISTS  UNLIMITED

Spring 2018

Vol. 31 No. 1

Officers for 2018 President – **Rich Edelman**, 1st Vice President – **Ed Daly**,
2nd Vice President – **Don Togneri**, Secretary – **Joe Shannon**. Treasurer – **John Pensec**
Sponsored by the First Presbyterian Church, Ridgewood, NJ

<http://www.hobbyists-unlimited.com>

Be sure to visit the website where the Roster of Members and additional information on most activities can be found, along with the full version of this Newsletter.

Presidents Cross Paths at an Early Age

Hobbyists President **Rich Edelman** was an all-star baseball teammate of another President—Donald Trump.

Little League Baseball
1958 TOURNAMENT TEAM ELIGIBILITY AFFIDAVIT
Hilltop Little League 1750 28th Avenue NYC

| NAME OF PLAYER | DATE OF BIRTH | POSITION |
|----------------------|---------------|----------|
| 1. Harold Stein | 3/5/46 | Infield |
| 2. Carl Selensky | 6/2/46 | Catcher |
| 3. Jack Bundy | 11/1/46 | Outfield |
| 4. Jimmy Bromberg | 9/11/46 | Infield |
| 5. Arnold Block | 3/2/46 | Infield |
| 6. George Spanding | 11/2/46 | Pitcher |
| 7. Hal White | 7/1/46 | Infield |
| 8. Keith Spelman | 3/12/46 | Infield |
| 9. Donald Langer | 4/2/46 | Outfield |
| 10. Steve Chinsky | 11/2/46 | Catcher |
| 11. Peter W. Galt | 11/2/46 | Outfield |
| 12. Alfred Bongiorno | 1/1/46 | Outfield |
| 13. Richard Gelman | 4/2/47 | Outfield |
| 14. Billy Stanger | 2/2/46 | Catcher |

Signed: *Donny Altman*
Signed: *Phil Edelman*

Rich grew up in a nine-building apartment complex known as Hilltop Village in the Holliswood section of Queens. The complex had its own Little League, which also served surrounding neighborhoods, including Jamaica Estates where Donald Trump was from. In 1958, when Rich was 11 and Donny (as he was known) was 12, both were selected as All-Stars. (See roster).

Both Rich and Donny were catchers. Rich, however, was the starting catcher, while Donny played the outfield. Rich has no recollection of playing with Donny, but recalls a Trump story told to him by his father, who was the Commissioner of the Hilltop Little League. The senior Edelman once received a call from Mrs. Trump, asking if someone could drive Donald to the game since the chauffeur had the day off. He politely declined and suggested Donny walk or ride his bike like all the other boys.

Rich also had much in common with another American President—Jimmy Carter. As detailed in a previous issue of the Hobbyists Newsletter, both served in the Navy under legendary Admiral Hyman Rickover and both are active participants with Habitat for Humanity.

Trump is at least the second U.S. President with Little League roots. The first was President George W. Bush, who was enshrined in the Little League Hall of Excellence in 2001. Bush’s father, George H.W. Bush was an outstanding baseball player who participated in the College World Series, but predated official Little League play.

New Members:

Irwin Berkowitz, 140 Wearimus Rd., Ho Ho Kus. His wife is Kathleen. Books, Camera, Golf, Movies, Public Affairs, Science & Technology.

Phil Ceppaglia, 300 Wales Ave., River Edge. His wife is Mary. Bocce, Books, Bowling, Camera, Fishing, Military History, Movies, Music, Tennis, Winemakers.

Ray Chuebon, 120 Central Ave., Glen Rock. His wife is Marilyn. Books, Bridge, Golf, Investments, Movies, ROMEO, Walking.

Rick Gentile, 97 Colonial Rd., Midland Park. His wife is Joanne. Golf, Habitat, Hiking, Investments, Walking, Winemakers.

Bill Iolonardi, 16 Lake St., White Plains, NY. His wife is Joanne. Camera, Golf, Military History, Music Appreciation.

Fred Kowal, 15 Rutland Rd., Glen Rock. His wife is Jane. Bowling, Golf.

Wayne Latawiec, 548 Hobart Rd., Paramus. His wife is Rosemary. Bowling, Golf, Hiking, Investments, Public Affairs, Tennis, Walking.

Bill Meehan, 68 Wayne Ave., River Edge. His wife is Lois. Bocce, Bridge, Fishing, Golf, Habitat, Investments, Military History, Poker Public Affairs, Walking.

Frank Mikos, 163 Del Mar Ave. Glen Rock. His wife is Mary Ann. Bowling, Military History.

Robert Pickert, 140 Morton Dr., Ramsey. His wife is Patricia. Golf, Hiking, Investments, Movies, Poker.

Rich Rosenberg, 4107 Warrens Way, Wanaque. Books, Bridge, Camera, Military History, Movies, Music, Public Affairs, ROMEO, Winemakers.

Ben Ryan, 5-4 Vernon Ct., Waldwick. Bowling, Hiking, Lively Widowers, Military History, Movies, Poker, ROMEO, Science & Technology, Walking.

There are 438 Hobbyist members.

Activities:

Bocce (Roger DuBroff, 201-327-7014, dubroffr@yahoo.com) Friday at 9:00 a.m., Wilde Memorial Park, Glen Rock. We need players! Join us and have lots of fun.

Book Club (Alan Stein 447-4235, stampmaven1@verizon.net, **Peter Philip** 666-0105) 3rd Friday, 10:00 a.m., at the Church.

Bowling (Charlie Tuch, 973-636-9211, clt976@optonline.net, **Don Peterfriend**, 201-739-8672, dpeterfriend@yahoo.com, **John Pensec**, 447-1317, jpensec@optonline.net, **Mike Doherty**, 447-4625, mikedoh@aol.com, **Gary Don**, 574-3506, garydon@verizon.net) Wednesday, 9:00 a.m. at Bowlero Lanes, Fair Lawn.

Bridge (Rick Pascal, 201-791-9526) Thursdays, 11:45 a.m., in the East Room of the Church or on Friday, the day after the monthly Hobbyists meeting. Play concludes at approximately 3:30 p.m. Some 21 players of the 37-member roster are active participants. Newcomers are welcome.

The most current standings are **James Hildreth**, 115 points; **Raj Mehta**, 99; **Jim Deaver** and **Ed Foldessy**, both with 86, and Bob Yampell, 83.

Camera (Giancarlo Bisone, 201- 644-8844, gbisone@optonline.net) 1st Wednesday, 2:00 p.m. at the Church.

After receiving a record-high 317 votes from 107 Hobbyists and a review of the top 11 photos at the March Camera Club meeting, the winners of this year's contest are as follows: First Place: **Tom Heed** (New York City Tribute in Light); Second Place: **Tom Heed** (Fisherman); Third Place: **Bob Norelli** (Fall Reflection); Honorable Mention: **Mel Flanzman** (Bridges); Honorable Mention: **Mike Doherty** (Waterfall).



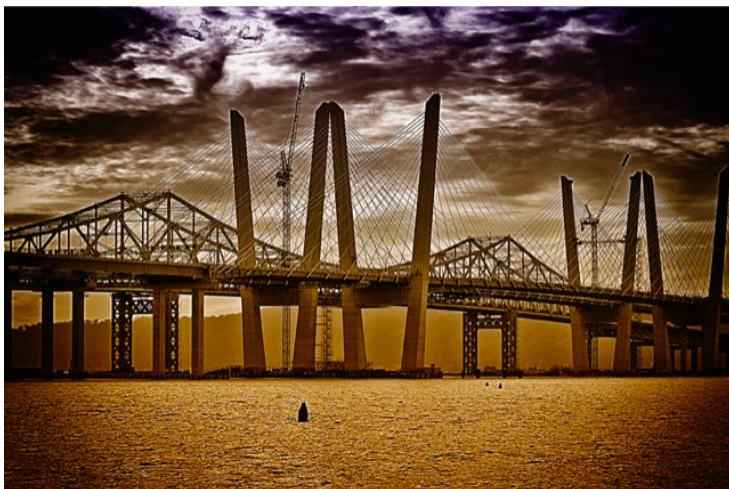
First Place: **Tom Heed**



Second: **Tom Heed**



Third: **Bob Norelli**



Honorable Mention **Mel Flanzman**



Mike Doherty

Dinner Dances (Ed Daly (201-447-4603, eddaly@att.net; Phil Almeida, 201-445-9935 phil1231@optonline.net; Bill Healy, 201-652-5868 whealy3741@aol.com). Check the web site for updates.

Fishing (Gene Boyle, 862-377-9016, gbrealty@optonline.net)

Golf (Paul Fazio, 201-445-3426, faz90@optonline.net)

Gourmet Cooking Group (Jim McKeown, 201-327-3411, jimmckeown@optonline.net)

Habitat For Humanity (Paterson, Rich Edelman, 201- 973-427-7647, edelmanr@optonline.net ; Ed Daly 201-447-4603, cell 201- 960-7069, eddaly@att.net) Hobbyists volunteers continue to provide key support to both the Bergen and Paterson units of Habitat for Humanity.

Hiking (Ed Collins, 201-445-5158, edward5158@aol.com)

Hobbyaires (Joe Hovan 201-445-6708)

Hobbyists Concerned (Peter Philip 201-666-0105) If you are on the e-mail list, most communications, illnesses, hospital stays, and deaths will be reported to you through an e-mail message. Those without e-mail ability will receive a phone call. If you prefer to be on the calling list rather than notified by e-mail, contact **Joe Savitscus**, 201-661-8469.

Investments – (Bill Flynn, 917-693-1469, williamaflynn@gmail.com) All meetings of the Investment Group meet at 2:00 p.m. on the 2nd Monday of each month the church.

The speaker for the investment club meeting for Monday, April 16 @ 2:00 p.m. in the church auditorium will be Irina S. Shea, Esq. She is an attorney specializing in estate planning, elder law and estate administration. Her topic is "Now What?" - New Jersey has repealed estate tax.

Italian Club (Don Togneri, 201-445-0679, dtogneri@yahoo.com). Meetings are on the second and fourth Thursdays, 1:00 p.m., at the church. A "Basic" group will meet at 2:00 p.m. on the fourth Thursday.

Jazz Bunch (Bob Stevenson at 201-615-1202, robtstevenson@hotmail.com) The Hobbyists Jazz Bunch consists of Hobbyists who enjoy all forms of jazz and swing music and periodically attend interesting concerts in the metro NY/NJ area. If you are interested in joining, please contact Bob Stevenson.

Lively Widowers (Vince Campione, 201-505-4870, vcamp12345@aol.com , Bill Healy, 201-652-5868, whealy3741@aol.com) The luncheons are held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 1:00 p.m.

Lunch Bunch (Bob Sayegh, 201-670-6010, bobsay14@gmail.com).

Membership (Ed Lundell , 201-857-1992, lundeoo@gmail.com , Rich Szigety, 201-445-5895, zig284@optonline.net, Steve Hochman, 201- 424-9701, shochman@gmail.com).

Military History Club (Tom Heed, 845-534-8695) 3rd Monday of each month at the Church.

Movie Lovers (Dick Oswald, 201-447-4053, ddoswald@verizon.net) Movie Lovers usually meet the 2nd Tuesday of the month, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m., at the Village Hall, ground floor. There is a discussion period at each film showing.

Music Lovers (Vacancy - contact President Edelman if interested) 2nd Friday, 10:00 a.m. at the Church.

Poker (Paul Levin 201-444-7729, Dan Wolf 201-825-7769)

Winter Program Topics: Senior Living and Local History

Members received useful Senior Living options at a presentation following the January general meeting held at the First Presbyterian Church.

Philip Decyk, a residency counselor with The Vista, a Christian Health Care Center, identified four different choices that individuals 55 years of age or older can select. They include Active Independent Living; Assisted Living; Skilled Nursing, and Continuing Care.

Active Independent Living arrangements are designed for seniors who could find low-maintenance apartments, town houses or condominiums most attractive. Assisted Living candidates require 24-hour support, while candidates receiving Skilled Nursing services might need a hospital-like environment for short or long terms. The Continuing Care option is a hybrid that offers all of the previously mentioned services. For further information, contact The Vista at (201) 848-4200.

Local historians provided the February and March presentations. A marker containing the names of 112 war casualties from Ridgewood initially inspired Chris Stout, who later visited burial grounds and did extensive research in compiling a book on the war dead. One of the casualties was Tom Maguire, who posthumously received the Medal of Honor. Just prior to his burial at Arlington National Cemetery, the plane carrying his body was flown over the Village. New Jersey's Air Force base bears his name.

Hobbyist **Joe Suplicki** and wife Peggy Norris provided an interesting look back at Camp Merritt at our March meeting. Camp Merritt was the largest of four camps on the East Coast used as a departure point for troops heading to Europe during World War I. Covering 770 acres in Dumont, Cresskill, Haworth and Demarest, the camp trained more than 570,000 troops beginning with the U.S. entry into WWI in April 1917. At any given time, more than 30,000 troops were on hand, making Camp Merritt the largest town in Bergen County at that time. There were 1302 buildings, including 611 two-story wooden barracks, and 14 miles of roads. Some 551 soldiers died there during the height of the flu epidemic. The camp closed in February 1920, and four years later, a monument, which still stands, was dedicated by Gen. John "Black Jack" Pershing.

Hobbyists are encouraged to take part in these interesting and informative presentations, which follow every general meeting.

Public Affairs (George Mackey, gfmjd@aol.com, 201-445-3777; Dom Casulli 201-261-4991) 2nd Wednesday at 2:00 p.m., Church Auditorium.

ROMEO (Cliff Matthews, 201-447-9040, mrmcem@optonline.net), ROMEO meets at different moderately priced BYO places and is a pleasant way to meet and socialize with fellow hobbyists.

Science and Technology (Elliot Ratchik, 914-420-4330, eratchik@gmail.com) 3rd Wednesday, 2:00 p.m., Church auditorium.

Tennis (Dick Oswald, 201-447-4053, ddoswald@verizon.net, George Shabet , 201-444-8492, jonhoz@aol.com)

Extended Trips And Tours (Ray Cheesman, 201-652-9372, raycheesman@yahoo.com)

For 2018 we have three Extended Trips with space available. Complete details are posted on the Hobbyists website. These trips are open to friends and family.

* **June 10-13, 2018** A 4-day spectacular tour includes Oceanfront accommodations in Ocean City, Maryland; Assateague Island Wildlife Refuge; Boat Cruise on The Chesapeake Bay; Tangier Island; Chesapeake House; Boat Cruise on Intracoastal Waterway, and The Ocean City Boardwalk. To date, 24 people have made reservations and there is additional space.

* **October 15-24, 2018** A 10-day tour of San Antonio-Dallas-Austin-Galveston and Fort Worth, Texas includes round-trip transportation from Ridgewood to Newark and round-trip air to Texas. In addition to city tours, the trip includes Two Horse Ranches; University of Texas Campus at Austin; The Alamo; Boat Ride

Along the River Walk in San Antonio; Offshore Drilling Rig; NASA Johnson Space Center and much more. Twenty-two people have made reservations and there is space available.

* **December 27, 2018- January 3, 2019** An 8-day Viking Turquoise Caribbean Cruise from Miami to Key West; Belize City; Cozumel, Mexico and Merida, Mexico. Round-trip air from Newark to Miami is included as well as a complimentary Shore Excursion in every Port of Call. Thirty people have made reservations and there is space for a few more.

For 2019, we have scheduled a 10-day tour **July 27- August 5, 2019**, including a 7-night Louisville to St. Louis River Cruise on the Ohio; Tennessee & Cumberland Rivers aboard the First All-Suite Paddlewheeler on US Rivers; Highlights: Round-trip air from Newark to Louisville & St Louis, Accommodations in Lexington KY and The Brown Hotel, Louisville. Ports of Call: Brandenburg, KY; Owensboro, KY; Paducah, KY; Cape Girardeau, MO; Chester, IL and St. Louis, MO. Also, tour of Kentucky Derby Museum and Churchill Downs; Abraham Lincoln Birthplace; My Old Kentucky Home; Louisville Slugger Museum, St. Louis Arch and much more.

Complete details are posted on the website. For reservations call Group Tours 973-513-9001.

Trips & Tours (Bob Sayegh, 201-670-6010, bobsay14@gmail.com)

Volunteer Services

- Drivers - Sometimes a Hobbyist needs to have a medical visit or other appointment and he or his family cannot drive. We now have a volunteer drivers list of about 10. If you need a ride or can help drive, contact **Bob Stevenson**, at 201-615-1202 or **Bill Carbone**, 201-652-6693.
- Sunday Morning Newspaper Distribution – We need volunteers to deliver Sunday newspapers one Sunday a month, two hours in the morning from 8:30 to 10:30. Two guys working together is fun and the satisfaction allowing the patients to get their newspapers is worth the couple hours a month. Please contact **Dave Smilon** at 201-573-0887.

Walking (Pete Seibel, 201-573-8350, peterams@aol.com) The group walks the Saddle River bike path every Thursday morning starting at 9:00 a.m. from the Duck Pond in Ridgewood.

The Walking Group walks 52 weeks a year weather permitting.

Wine Appreciation Group –WAG: (Bob Stevenson, 201-615-1202, robtstevenson@hotmail.com)

Wine Making (Paul Richert, 201-967-1347 or prichert@optonline.net)

Hobbyists Alert - If you ignore robo calls from a Caller ID that you don't recognize, you may be missing important calls from the Hobbyists. The service we use is **CALLING POST**, although at times the calling number with an area code of 405 is used instead. So unless you have voicemail or an answering machine, we suggest you take the call.

Longevity Talk at Ridgewood Village Hall

A discussion about "Living to 100: Lessons in Maximizing Your Potential at Any Age" may be of interest to Hobbyists. It takes place at the Ridgewood Community Center in Village Hall on Thursday, May 17 at 7 p.m.

Dr. Thomas Perls, a geriatrician and lead researcher for the New England Centenarian Study, will be the presenter. To reserve a seat, RSVP at www.agefriendlyridgewood.org. For further information, call (201) 632-15564 or e-mail agefriendlyridgewood@gmail.com.

Ridgewood Fourth of July is looking for ticket sellers during the period June 25 - 30, at the Ridgewood Library. If interested in supporting this activity, contact Bill Carbone @ 201-652-6693 or becarbo@optonline.net.

Kudos.



Hobbyist **Dave Vanderbush** was recently inducted into the NJ Athletic Directors Association Hall of Fame. Dave was a teacher, coach and Athletic Director at Ridgewood HS for many years

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