

President's Message



John McCabe

Wow, we have had a wild weather ride this last month! I never know what to wear. Will it be 30 degrees or will it be 70? My daffodils are up and blooming, so spring is here. With that, the outdoor activities of the Club that were suspended in winter are resuming. Please check out the Club calendar for when your favorite activity is meeting. At this time of year our snow birds are returning from warmer climes, so welcome back if you were away.

Spring is also planning time for our Annual Picnic in June and your Steering Committee is actively working on that. At the picnic we hope to welcome our new Executive Committee members. Our Nominating Committee is looking for folks to step up to fill these roles. Please carefully consider joining the Steering Committee in one of these roles. If you would like more information, you can certainly reach out to me. Looking further ahead we have our general meeting speakers lined up through the end of the year, so please mark your calendars for the third Tuesday of each month so you don't miss this time with fellow members and informative talks. I hope you all survived April Fool's Day and didn't fall for any of the silliness on the Internet.

Cares and Concerns

Chairman: Steve Beiter

Charlie Flynn died on March 25th at age 93. As a leading member and former President of the Activities Club, Charlie enjoyed the Classical Music Group, the Computer Group, and the Walking Group. Charlie also served the Club as publisher of the *NewsLine* and chairman of the Membership Committee. Charlie and his wife Mary were dutiful volunteers for more than a decade with Community Meals on Wheels, delivering meals to the elderly in need and with Charlie also serving as that organization's president and board member. Besides his many official activities, Charlie will be remembered for the stinging, yet affectionate, witticisms that he often contributed to the Club's ambience. May he rest in peace.

Monthly General Meeting

This month's speaker at the Monthly Meeting will be Walter Murphy, a member of The Activities Club since

2009. He has been the long-standing consultant of our Genealogy Group and the immediate past president of the Cape Cod Genealogical Society. He will present a seminar he has presented to libraries and other groups. He will also lead a Genealogy Group meeting that will take place immediately after the Monthly Meeting in the Parlor, which is directly across the hallway from Fellowship Hall. All Club members are invited to find out more about how to pursue research on their family tree.

The Monthly Meeting will take place as usual starting at 1:00 PM on Tuesday April 15th in the GR Community Church Fellowship Hall with Chris' Coffee and Cookies, followed by Walter Murphy at 1:30.



Pictured with Activities Club President John McCabe is Denis Niland of the Bergen County Office of Consumer Protection, who provided the members of the Activities Club tips and insight into consumer fraud at the Club's March meeting.

Annual Club Picnic

John McCabe

We have a date of Thursday June 19th for our Club Picnic. Please plan on joining this event. This is a great opportunity to meet other members, as this is likely our best attended event. Bring your spouse as well. If able, please let me know if you can help in some small way; or if you pitched in the past, please let me know if you are able to do so again. I will work with each of you on assignments

Club Garb

Jim Garofalo has the following clothing available, but not all sizes :

T- shirt	\$11.00	Golf shirt	\$19.00
Sweat shirt	\$20.00	Hats (fits all)	\$15.00

If interested, email Jim indicating your size . Please pay with check payable to Activities Club.

Activities Reports

Bocce/Petanque Wednesdays 9:00 AM

Chairman: Maurice Pailleret

Book Discussion 2nd Fridays 1:30 PM

Chairman: Ken Bratspies



Members At-
tending on Fri-
day April 4th:

Leo Karpinski,
John McCabe,
Jim Piombino,
Patrick Benasillo,
Don Hansen,
Rich Burns, Ken
Bratspies,

Patrick Benasillo led a stimulating discussion about John Grisham's novel, *The Racketeer*. We explored the many twists and turn of the plot, and we considered the legal (and illegal) processes that were presented in the book. There was discussion about the characters and the amazingly detailed plan to acquire the booty of gold bars. We had a measure of skepticism about how the multiple aspects of the plot could have actually succeeded; however, we agreed that the book was a good and entertaining read.

John McCabe suggested several books for next month's meeting. The group chose *Clan of the Cave Bear* by Jean Auel. The book is a novel about a group of ancient and primitive people who live during a challenging era. The next meeting will take place on Friday, May 9th at 1:30 in the Parlor. All members of the Activities Club are welcome to join us.

Computers 3rd Wednesdays 1:30 PM

Chairman: Henry Baker

The next meeting of the Personal Computers group will be Wednesday April 16th at 1:30 PM at the Community Church. At this meeting we'll see how to use digital wallets on various phones. These can be used for more than just credit cards.

How long do various storage devices last? Is yours ready to die? Come see a discussion on media life expectancy and the best media for long term (decades) archiving. And if we have time, we'll see a video on the future of computers in Neuromorphic (Brain-Like) Computing.

Digital Photography 1st Mondays 10:30 AM

Chairman: Mike Capizzi

Digital Photography Club Meeting – Monday, April 7th at 10:30 in the ED building. Join us for an exciting session where we'll dive into mastering Google Photos and scanning techniques. We'll also cover cloud storage solutions and how to unlock unlimited free storage using Google Photos!

2025 Photo Contest-Now Open for Submissions!

Show off your photography skills in the Club's 2025 Photo Contest! Submit up to three photos per category, taken by you within the past four years.

Categories: **Motion Blur, **The Color Blue, **Macro Photography, **Architecture .

The contest is open to all Activities Club members. Please submit your photos to Mike by October 25th, 2025.

Card Playing 2nd and 4th Mondays

Chairman: Rich Petersson

Classical Music last Fridays 1:30 PM

Chairman: Ron Coll

Coins / Collectibles 1st Fridays 1:30 PM

Chairman: Pete Pantina

Genealogy 1st Mondays 1:30 PM VIA ZOOM

Chairman: Walter Murphy

The Genealogy Group will meet right after the Genealogy Seminar at the Monthly General Meeting on April 15th. The Genealogy Group meeting will take place in the Parlor, which is directly across the hallway from where the Monthly Meeting takes place.

Golf Wednesday mornings starting March 25th

Chairman: Jim Piombino

Hiking Last Tuesday monthly, weather permitting

Chairman: Lee Cunningham

Our March hike was along the trails in the Tenaflly Nature Center. The TNC is located on the western slope of the Palisades, adjacent to the Palisades Parkway. We hiked four of the park's seven miles of trails. Along the way, we passed several volcanic rock outcroppings, as well as several glacial erratics. One of these large rocks, Haring Rock, is shown in our picture. After exploring the park trails, we explored the offerings of an old school hot dog joint to recharge ourselves.

Hikes are scheduled for the last Tuesday of each month, and are usually 3 to 5 miles in length, rated easy-to-moderate by the NY-NJ Trail Conference. We meet at the Community Church parking lot at 9:00 AM. For more information on the Activities Club and the Hiking group, click on the "Activities" tab and scroll down to "Hiking" at: <http://www.theactivitiesclub.org> Visit our Facebook Page at: <https://www.facebook.com/GRACNJ> for more pictures.



Hikers beside Haring Rock, a glacial erratic: Chris Megalos, Don Hansen,

Robert Sabatino, Lee Cunningham, Henry Baker, John McCabe, John Moran.

History Last Fridays 1:30 PM
Chairman: Steve Beiter

Pete Richter will chair the meeting this month.

Personal Finance 1st Wednesdays 130 PM
Chairman: Art Walthking

The Personal Finance Group will meet the first Wednesday of May at 1:30 PM in the Drop-in Center on the 7th. The meeting will include the following discussion: Protect Against Bubbles by Buying Anti-Bubble Assets.

Pickleball Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:00 AM
Chairman: Henry Baker

Par 3 Golf Thursday mornings
Chairman: Ken Bratspies

Veterans Home Various activities and events are available for participation by volunteers.
Chairman: Rich Petersson

Walking Every non-holiday weekday 8:00 AM
Chairman: Steve Beiter

Birthdays

Mike Shetler	Apr. 10	Paul Rosengren	Apr. 17
Pat Schuber	Apr. 15	Rich Moderow	Apr. 25
Bob Kaufmann	Apr. 17	Skip Huisking	May. 1

Science 2nd Wednesdays 1:30 PM
Chairman: Ron Greenberg

At our next meeting on Wednesday April 9th we will continue gaining background for our study of plate tectonics and climate by familiarizing ourselves with the basic structures and time scales involved in geographic processes. As usual, we'll start by reviewing recent newsworthy findings in science. An attendee at a recent meeting suggested that we regularly update the findings of the James Webb Space Telescope, and that will happen starting this month. Our location will continue to be in the Drop-in Center of the Ed Building at 1:30.



Pictured are: John Moran, Lee Cunningham, Harry Nass, Marty Lipeles, Stan Feldman, Don Hanson, Rich Moderow, Steve Beiter, and Science group leader Ron Greenberg. The group had just watched a lecture on "How the Earth Works - Plate Tectonics".



Here's to all of us born before 1979!

First, we survived being born to mothers who smoked and/or drank while they were pregnant. They took aspirin, ate blue cheese dressing, tuna from a can and didn't get tested for diabetes. Then after that trauma, we were put to sleep on our tummies in baby cribs covered with bright colored lead-base paints.

We had no childproof lids on medicine bottles, locks on doors or cabinets and when we rode our bikes, we had baseball caps not helmets on our heads.

As infants & children, we would ride in cars with no car seats, no booster seats, no seat belts, no air bags, bald tires and sometimes no brakes. Riding in the back of a pick-up truck on a warm day was always a special treat. We ate cupcakes, white bread, real butter and bacon. We drank Kool-Aid made with real white sugar. And, we weren't overweight.. WHY?

Because we were always outside playing...that's why! We would leave home in the morning and play all day, as long as we were back when the streetlights came on.. No one was able to reach us all day. And, we were OK

We did not have Play Stations, Nintendos and X-boxes. There were no video games, no 150 channels on cable, no video movies or DVD's, no surround-sound or CD's, no cell phones, no personal computers, no Internet and no chat rooms.

WE HAD FRIENDS and we went outside and found them!

Little League had tryouts and not everyone made the team. Those who didn't had to learn to deal with disappointment. Imagine that!

The idea of a parent bailing us out if we broke the law was unheard of. They actually sided with the law!

These generations have produced some of the best risk-takers, problem solvers and inventors ever. The past 50 years have been an explosion of innovation and new ideas.

We had freedom, failure, success and responsibility, and we learned how to deal with it all.

If YOU are one of them, CONGRATULATIONS!

Ed. Note: The punchline of last month's joke was inadvertently omitted. It was: The grandmother said, "No, I'm Norma Findlay in Room 302. No one tells me shit."

April 2025 Activities

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Walking Pickleball Steering Committee	2 Walking Golf Personal Finance	3 Walking Pickleball Par 3 Golf	4 Walking Book Discussion	5
6	7 Walking Digital Photography	8 Walking Pickleball	9 Walking Golf Science 	10 Walking Pickleball Par 3 Golf	11 Walking 	12
13	14 Walking Card Playing	15 Walking Pickleball Club Meeting Genealogy Walter Murphy	16 Walking Bocce-Petanque Computers Golf	17 Walking Pickleball Par 3 Golf	18 Walking	19
20 	21 Walking	22 Walking Pickleball 	23 Walking Bocce-Petanque Golf	24 Walking Pickleball Par 3 Golf	25 Walking History	26
27	28 Walking Card Playing	29 Walking Hiking (weather permitting) Pickleball	30 Walking Golf Bocce-Petanque Classical Music			

May 2025 Activities

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Walking Pickleball Par 3 Golf	2 Walking Coins/ Collectibles	3
4	5 Walking Digital Photography 	6 Walking Pickleball Steering Committee	7 Walking Golf Personal Finance Bocce-Petanque	8 Walking Pickleball Par 3 Golf 	9 Walking Book Discussion	10
11	12 Walking Card Playing	13 Walking Pickleball	14 Walking Golf Science Bocce-Petanque	15 Walking Pickleball Par 3 Golf	16 Walking	17
18	19 Walking	20 Walking Pickleball Club Meeting DR. Baum	21 Walking Computers Golf Bocce-Petanque	22 Walking Pickleball Par 3 Golf	23 Walking	24
25	26 Walking 	27 Walking Hiking (weather permitting) Pickleball	28 Walking Golf Classical Music Bocce-Petanque	29 Walking Pickleball Par 3 Golf	30 Walking History	31 

Activity	Meeting Place	Time	Activity	Meeting Place	Time	Trip Departures
			History	Ed Bldg	1:30 PM	
Bocce-Petanque	Wilde Park	9:15 AM	Lunch Bunch	Church parking lot	11:15 AM	
Book Discussion	Ed Bldg	1:30 PM	Monthly Meeting	Fellowship Hall	1:00 PM	
Card Playing	Ed Bldg	1:00 PM	Personal Finance	Ed Bldg	1:30 PM	
Classical Music	Residents	1:30 PM	Pickleball	Wilde Park	8:00 AM	
Coin Collecting	Ed Bldg	1:30 PM	Par3 Golf	Twin Willows Par 3	TBA	
Computers	Ed Bldg	1:30 PM	Science	Ed Bldg & TBA	1:30 PM	
Digital Photography	Ed Bldg	10:30 AM	Steering Committee	Ed Bldg	10:30 AM	
Genealogy	Zoom	1:30 PM	Volunteers - General	TBA	Various	
Golf	Meadows G. C.	7:00 AM	Volunteers - Veterans	Vet's Home, Paramus	Various	
Hiking	Church parking lot.	9:00 AM	Walking	County Park, G.R.	8:00 AM	