

P.O. Box 5035
Marco Island, FL. 34146
www.MarcoMensClub.com

The Marco Men's Club Newsletter

May 2020



Established 1992
A non-profit organization

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Charles Dickens begins his novel "The Tale of Two Cities" with the sentence that starts with: "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times.....". That is, what I feel, summarizes where we are as individuals and as a club.

Prior to this pandemic we were living in paradise and belonged to a club that was so chock full of activities that we could in no way attend everything that was available. Since the State has had an economic shut down and social distancing has been in place, we have been forced to cancel all of our club activities. Restaurants are closed, so we cannot have our luncheons. All of the theaters have cancelled performances and therefore the entertainment opportunities we wish to attend are unavailable.

Out of precaution, so that our members would not catch the virus and by following CDC Guidelines, we have cancelled our sponsorship of golf and bocce as well as are various discussion groups.

However, because of the precautions that the State, the County, the City and that we as a club have taken, we have prevented more serious consequences due to Covid-19. We are flattening the curve. Our medical facilities in Southwest Florida are not overburdened. We have had illness and death in our community but things could have been much worse. It appears, as of this writing, that things will slowly be returning to the "new" normal, whatever that may be.

"Sheltering in place" on Marco Island has not been that difficult. I have been able to catch up on a lot of office work and shortened my "honey do" list. At the same time, I have taken many long, 2 hour walks and 1 hour bike rides. We have had dinner with my son and granddaughter, who live with us, at the same time each day. We have tried out many new recipes since we cannot dine out at a restaurant. There has been time to read, talk and share a glass of wine with my wife, take a nap and do jigsaw puzzles. I have not golfed or played tennis in two months. So far, so good.

Both I and my family have remained healthy as well as all of our friends. My partner in our surgical practice used to say "Your health is the most important thing that you can have". As long as we are healthy, we can battle and recover from almost any adversity that we face.

Your Club Leadership has been active even though we have not had club social events. There has been a successful transition. **Jeff Dywan** our President for 2019 has been a wonderful help in assisting me to become your 2020 President. In March and April, the previous Board met by Video Conference. We were unable to meet at our usual site at Fifth Third Bank because the bank was closed to any inside activity. We will do the same in May.

We are exploring options so that we can meet together along with all of our Committee Chairman for June. As you may have heard, the United Church of Marco, where we usually have our monthly Club meetings, has closed its activities room to all outside groups for the remainder of 2020. The church is non-committal regarding 2021. As a result, we as a board are investigating other venues.

Planning for luncheons, dinners, theater opportunities, sporting events as well as many of our club activity and discussion groups will depend on the availability of various venues. I am sure that there will be some type of limitations as to numbers of people and size of rooms. I feel that there will be rapidly changing opportunities. We will have to respond and adapt as necessary. That means that there may be relatively short notice for various activities and availability may be limited. We as your club leadership will make every opportunity to keep all of our members well informed so that you can take advantage of what is available.

I, as your President, along with the Vice Presidents, **Frank Romano, Ray Seward, Turk Tilev, John Watson, Don Zimmer**; Past President **Jeff Dywan**; Secretary **Dave Pritchard** and Treasurer **Rudy Landwaard** along with all of our **Committee Chairmen** are committed to work hard during these challenging times to keep the Marco Men's Club as the best social club on the island. In order for us to do that we need your help. First, let us hear from you if you know of an opportunity for us to get together...a restaurant or anywhere our club might gather. Be extra eyes and ears for the club. Second, it will be helpful if you pay your dues promptly.

You can easily do this by going to the club website: **marcomensclub.com** and click on the **"Pay Dues"** tab. You can pay by credit card (electronically) or by check. The funds are essential. They are used as "up front" money when we make reservations for activities and they are returned to members at various events to keep the cost down for the event and to make additions to the event that would not otherwise be possible.

I am looking forward to seeing all of you at -----THE NEXT BIG ONE,

Jerry Swiacki



The Marco Men's Club Newsletter May, 2020

CLUB NEWS

COMPUTER/TECHNOLOGY CLUB

Contact **Charlie Erker** at 239-259-8054

Or charles.a.erker@gmail.com.

Computer/Technology Club typically meets the 3rd Thursday at the Community Room at The Mutual of Omaha Bank at 10:30 a.m. This is an informal round table discussion group. Beginners, experienced and in-between are all welcome. Reservations are not required. Just show up.

Meetings are suspended until further notice.

INVESTMENT DISCUSSION GROUP – This is a gathering where opinions are valued, facts are appreciated and experience is not necessary, but prized. An open and broad discussion of topics relating to investment raised by those present is conducted. The discussion group meets at 1:30PM on the 2nd Wednesday of the month in the Community room at the Mutual of Omaha Bank (next to Ace Hardware). Contact **WARREN UHL** Ph: 727-247-5167. **Meeting status will be through an e-mail blast the week before the meeting.**

TRAVEL DISCUSSION GROUP - The Travel Discussion Group meets at 10:00AM on the 1st Wednesday of every month in the Community Room at the Mutual of Omaha Bank (next to Ace Hardware). This is a gathering of people that want to talk about and share travel experiences. Open discussions will be encouraged. Contact **SILKY SULLIVAN** (marcosilky@yahoo.com or 239-393-9125). **Meetings are suspended until further notice.**

Bocce Ball



Bocce balls stopped rolling when the Marco Island Parks Department stopped allowing us to use their equipment for our league at Mackle Park.

We were having a great time until the Coronavirus 19 pandemic shut us down.

Congratulations to the two first place teams: Tuesday team "T" – **Lou & Peg Makris** with **John & Karla Kunzeman** with a 10-1 record.

Thursday team "B" **Rod & Anne Link** with **Dennis & Peggy Hoelzel** with an 8-2 record.

Many thanks to the captains that made this work. We look forward to the league resuming next fall/winter when Mackle Park is open again. Contact **Warren Uhl** at MMC.BocceLeague@gmail.com or by phone at 727-247-5167.

HOSPITALITY

Thanks to the guys who set up the room in March: Chairman **DEREK MULLINDER, JERRY DEFIBAUGH, RICH CARLSEN, DON LALLY AND DON KOPPEL**. To volunteer, contact **DEREK MULLINDER** (derek.mullinder@comcast.net or Ph: 239-642-0565).

MMC HATS AND SHIRTS

Contact or see **Don Lally** or **Rich Carlsen** at the General Meeting to order MMC hats or Polo shirts.

SICKNESS AND BEREAVEMENT

Lou Makris is sad to report the passing of Club Member **Steve Krisko**. Steve passed away on April 20th, after a long battle with cancer. Please keep Becky and the Krisko family in your thoughts and prayers.

The mother of club president, **Jerry Swiacki**, passed away on April 2nd at the age of 99 from natural causes.

Please telephone **Lou** at 781-258-0456 or email loumak42@aol.com regarding information of illness or death of members, their spouse, and immediate family. **Lou** will notify the MMC board.

CRUISES

**THE MARCO ISLAND MEN'S CLUB "47th"
CRUISE
AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND, MARCH
6- MARCH 18, 2021**

"FIFTEEN DAYS.....THIRTEEN
NIGHTS....VISITING "8" PORTS OF CALL
ABOARD CELEBRITIES 5 STAR SHIP
"SOLSTICE" –
AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND...
TAURANGA, NEW ZEALAND....
NAPIER, NEW ZEALAND.....
WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND...
CHRISTCHURCH, NEW ZEALAND.....
DUNEDIN, NEW ZEALAND.....
DUSKY SOUND.....DOUBTFUL SOUND
MILFORD SOUND.....
SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA
"2" NIGHTS AT SYDNEY'S AMORA "5" STAR
HOTEL. "2" FULL DAYS MMC PRIVATE SYDNEY
TOURS. FLYER CONTAINS CRUISE/TOUR
ITINERARIES, COST, FREE PERKS.

*CRUISE WILL BE ANOTHER SELL OUT-100
PEOPLE BOOKED FEBRUARY 1ST.*

*A SMALL NUMBER OF STATEROOMS IS
AVAILABLE IN EACH CATEGORY*

An updated flyer is on the club's website.

The coronavirus virtually closed down the Cruise Industry. Fortunately, our Next Cruise above sailing March 2021 is one year away, when conditions should be safe to sail. Once safe travel returns to Ocean and River cruising, we will organize additional cruises. Very likely, when the Cruise Lines once again began accepting reservations, we may find them offerings exceptional group fares, values and perks.

Regards, Bob

[Please contact
bobmarksmi@hotmail.com-](mailto:bobmarksmi@hotmail.com)

The Marco Men's Club
Speakers Calendar

Donor Dir. Program Director

Update on Speaker's schedule

Given the disruption caused by the virus, this is an update on guest speakers for the coming year.

Geoff Fahringer: Situation Awareness

He is ready to go as soon as we begin monthly meetings.

Dr. Al Tatarius : Stress Management

Will be available when he returns in October.

Proposed speakers:

Craig Keeling : Nuclear Armament

Dr. James Faremouth : Medicinal Marijuana

Darcie Guerin : Understanding Finances (more specifics to come)

This is all tentative given start-up date and their schedule.

Peter Piro

Program Director

MMC GOLF NEWS MAY 2020



Bob Winterhalter, Golf Chair

Phone 239 389 0825 (preferred #)

Cell 614 264 0021

E Mail robertswinterhalter@gmail.com

I transitioned into this position late in April from **Bill Horton**. First, I would like to thank Bill and his supporting cast for the past 12 months of service! Our Winter Season ended abruptly in March due to the Coronavirus. For May 2020 **Ron Kelly** is the Friday “traveling team” coordinator. The beginning of reciprocal season is always a challenge, but near impossible this year with most golf clubs imposing a “Members Only” position. Several courses should accept us with our receipt of the PGA Golf passes, being mailed by the PGA, to all that purchased thru **Jeff Dywan** last month.

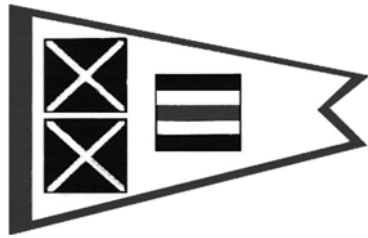
May Monday’s are being coordinated by **Frank Sroka** who has Lely Mustang starting on May 4, 2020 for \$55 plus tax. If you have not received his e blast and want to play on Mondays, please email him at f.sroka@hotmail.com.

The TGIF Friday group, coordinated by **Lou Makris** is still trying to reach Glades to secure approval this summer. As of 4/30/20 their course is still closed. To reach Lou, phone 781-258-0456 or by e mail loumak42@aol.com.

Our Spring Scramble was cancelled, and I am hopeful for a Fall scramble, late in October, more to come as Florida opens further for business.

MMC GOLF COORDINATORS SUMMER 2020

Month	Days	Name	Email	Phone
May	Monday	Frank Sroka	f.sroka@hotmail.com	239-389-1087
	Friday	Ron Kelley	kelleys205@comcast.net	239-304-6267
June	Monday	Tom McCullough	tamccullough@comcast.net	239-970-2088
	Friday	Mike Mueller	mikemfla@icloud.com	239-272-8695
July	Monday	Bob Vanderselt	bvanderselt@stomaventures.com	314-378-0516
	Friday	Ron Bales	rpbmi@comcast.net	239-389-5587
August	Monday	Bob Boland/F.Sroka	rboland@comcast.net	239-595-8780
	Friday	Jeff Dywan	j.j.dywan@gmail.com	219-718-9615
September	Monday	Al Bozzo	dralboz@aol.com	239-389-0037
	Friday	Bob Winterhalter	robertswinterhalter@gmail.com	239-389-0825
October	Monday	Tony Tomassone	tonytom_52@msn.com	610-937-2324
	Friday	Steve Billmyer	stevenjb@centurylink.net	360-378-4194



THE MARCO MEN'S CLUB

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

*The Newsletter is published by the Marco Men's Club.
The Board of Directors is the Editorial Board. MAY 2020*

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Jerry Swiacki

President Emeritus: Jeff Dywan

Vice President: Ray Seward

Vice President: Don Zinner

Vice President: John Watson

Vice President: Frank Romano

Vice President: Engin "Turk" Tilev

Secretary: Dave Pritchard

Treasurer: Rudy Landwaard

APPOINTED COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

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Golf Chair: Bob Winterhalter

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Membership Communications: Bill Rogers

Investment Group: Warren Uhl

Computer/Technology Club: Charlie Erker

Travel Discussion Club: Silky Sullivan

Webmaster: Ed Crane

www.marcomensclub.com

Past Presidents (*indicates deceased):

1992: Paul Kurtzman

1996: George Kuntz*

2000: Jerry Stought

2004: Bob Gaffney

2008: Fred Stavola

2012: Randle Grossman

2016: Dan Flynn

1993: Bill Perdichizzi

1997: Alan Wetjen*

2001: Ned Wright

2005: Wayne Boose

2009: Joe Varano

2013: Jack DeHanas

2017: Silky Sullivan

1994: Harold Penn*

1998: George Godfrey

2002: Al Bozzo

2006: Tom Traeger*

2010: Bill Sullivan

2014: John Superits

2018: Bill Rogers

1995: Bob Marks

1999: Jerry Stought

2003: Ken Molander

2007: Joe Cassidy*

2011: Sam Miloro

2015: Warren Dettinger

2019: Jeff Dywan