

August 2021

The Marco Men's Club

# Newsletter



P.O. Box 5035  
Marco Island, FL. 34146  
[www.MarcoMensClub.com](http://www.MarcoMensClub.com)

Established 1992  
A non-profit organization

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Here we are in the “Dog Days” of summer, otherwise known as the “Rainy Season” in Southwest Florida. It is hot and humid with the heat index reaching 104 degrees! Although I am growing “gills” I should not complain too much, after all we **do** live in a **swamp**. The good things about being here in the summer are happening: there is less traffic and less crowding in the stores and supermarkets, there is generally no need to make dinner reservations several days in advance and it is much easier to get tee times. The down side is that we have to plan most of our outdoor activities earlier in the day to avoid the heat and rain that comes most afternoons.

Our club has remained active. Our coed dinner party on Bastille Day at Café Normandie was a great success. The food was excellent and the experience

introduced me to a new restaurant which Linda and I plan to revisit. A big “thank you” to **Mike Ballenger** with the help of **Dave Tobiasz** for hosting the event. On August 12th we will have a coed luncheon at **Cocomo's Grill** hosted by **Mike Levine**. Also, there will be a Hot August Night coed dinner at **K-Rico Mexican Grill** on August 22<sup>nd</sup> hosted by **Ed Crane**. Go to the website, download the flyer and signup!!

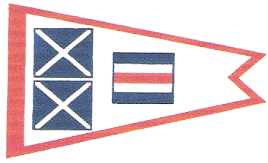
Thanks to our golf coordinators for July---**Tom McCullough** (Mondays), **Bob Winterhalter** (Traveling Fridays) and **Lou Makris** (TGIF). These fellows do a lot of work for all of us to enjoy a fun round of golf. We appreciate all that you do.

I would like to welcome nine gentlemen who have joined Marco Men's Club this year. They are: **Ray Cavanaugh, Bill Kreppein, Mike Ballenger, John Fox, Ed**

**Shebert, Ed Gerri, Tony  
Piringer, Gary Iwansky and  
Steve Furlong.** If I have  
forgotten anyone, accept my  
apologies and please let me know.

Finally, let me remind you that  
our General Meeting will be  
**inside** at Mackle Park on  
**Thursday August 12<sup>th</sup> at 11:30.**  
We will have coffee and donuts  
along with a raffle. Our speaker is  
Craig Keeling who will give us the  
inside information regarding the  
Middle East.

**Jerry Swiacki**



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# Club News

## COMPUTER/TECHNOLOGY CLUB

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

Or [charles.a.erker@gmail.com](mailto: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 due to lack of meeting space because of Covid-19.**

## 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month. **Contact Don Koppel Ph:856-906-4318. Meeting status will be through an e-mail blast the week before the meeting.**

## TRAVEL DISCUSSION GROUP

The next Travel Discussion Club meeting will be on Wednesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 11AM, location to be determined. In the meantime, here are sources to research ideas for travel:

Rick Steves Travels (European Countries) – PBS, Netflix and YouTube

American Treasures (US National Parks) – Netflix and YouTube

Legendary Cities (famous cities in the world) – Prime

Viking River Cruises – YouTube

Searching for Italy – YouTube

Library Travel Books

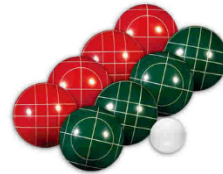
To access the **“Travel Club” webpage** click on the following link:

<https://marcomensclub.com/ComingEvents2/002TravelDiscussionGroup.pdf>

Let me know if I can help in any way.

Contact **SILKY SULLIVAN** [marcosilky@yahoo.com](mailto:marcosilky@yahoo.com) or 239-404-3249

## BOCCE BALL



Look for a call for teams in the October newsletter. If you have any questions contact **Warren Uhl** at 727-247-5167 or

[MMC.BocceLeague@gmail.com](mailto:MMC.BocceLeague@gmail.com)

## HOSPITALITY

Thanks to the guys who set up the room. Chairman JERRY DEFIBAUGH, RICH CARLSEN, DON LALLY, DEREK MULLINDER AND DON KOPPEL.

## MMC HATS AND SHIRTS.

The order form for Hats and Shirts is available on-line on the MMC Website, under the **MISCELLANEOUS & ACCESSORIES** header. Click on **CLOTHING** to obtain Order Form and Instructions.

## SPORTS UPDATE

Sports Chair Pat Wright will take a look at future sports events as information becomes available. Contact **Pat Wright** at [pwright44@msn.com](mailto:pwright44@msn.com) or 518-369-6441

## SICKNESS AND BEREAVEMENT

Please telephone **George Vitta** at 586-942-8056 or email [golflover3@yahoo.com](mailto:golflover3@yahoo.com) regarding information of illness or death of members, their spouse, and immediate family. George will notify the MMC board.

# CRUISES



## THE MMC “48<sup>th</sup>” CRUISE JAPAN AND SOUTH KOREA MARCH 27 - APRIL 10, 2022

“FIFTEEN DAYS..FOURTEEN NIGHTS VISITING “9” PORTS OF CALL IN “2” COUNTRIES ABOARD CELEBRITIES 5 STAR SHIP “**SOLSTICE**”, TOKYO (YOKOHAMA), JAPAN....MT FUJI (SHIMIZU), JAPAN, KOBE, JAPAN, KOCHI, JAPAN....HIROSHIMA, JAPAN, NAGASAKI, JAPAN.....BUSAN, SOUTH KOREA...HAKODATE, JAPAN, AOMORI, JAPAN.....AND TOKYO OVERNIGHT ABOARD SHIP.

**22 PEOPLE BOOKED TO DATE.**  
MMC WEB SITE CONTAINS FLYERS WITH DETAILED INFORMATION AND RESERVATION FORMS FOR EACH CRUISE.

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## THE MMC “49<sup>th</sup>” CRUISE AmaWaterways “MAGNA ON THE DANUBE” NOVEMBER 3 - 10, 2021

EMBARK ON A 7NIGHT RIVER CRUISE ABOARD THE MAGNIFICENT **AmaMagna**, FROM BUDAPEST, HUNGARY TO VILSHOFEN, GERMANY. VISITING ---

BUDAPEST-----BRATISLAVA-----  
VIENNA-----KREMS-----LINZ-----  
PASSAU-----VILSHOFEN.’/

THE “**AmaMagna**” LARGEST SHIP SAILING DANUBE (BUILT 2019) LARGE BALCONY, UNLIMITED WINES, ELEGANT ACCOMMODATIONS.  
**16 PEOPLE BOOKED TO DATE.**  
FLYER CONTAINS INFORMATION AND RESERVATION FORM.

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## THE MMC “50<sup>th</sup>” CRUISE AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND OCTOBER 22 - November 3, 2022

ABOARD CELEBRITIES 5 STAR SHIP, **THE ECLIPSE**, 15 DAYS, 14 NIGHTS VISITING 7 PORTS, “2” NIGHTS HOTEL TO ENJOY SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA TOURING SYDNEY AND THE COUNTRY, ON CLUB’S PRIVATE COACH. **THREE FREE CELEBRITY PERKS.**

THE CLASSIC BEVERAGE PACKAGE, SHIP GRATUITIES AND WI-FI. CLUB IS RECEIVING A LARGE REQUEST FOR THIS CRUISE SPACE. **CURRENTLY 85 PEOPLE CONFIRMED IN 46 STATEROOMS.** THIS IS A VERY POPULAR CRUISE, HAVING RECEIVED ADDITIONAL SPACE, WITH STATEROOMS AVAILABLE IN EACH CATEGORY, 15 MONTHS BEFORE SAILING, IT’S VERY LIKELY WILL EXCEED **100 PEOPLE.**

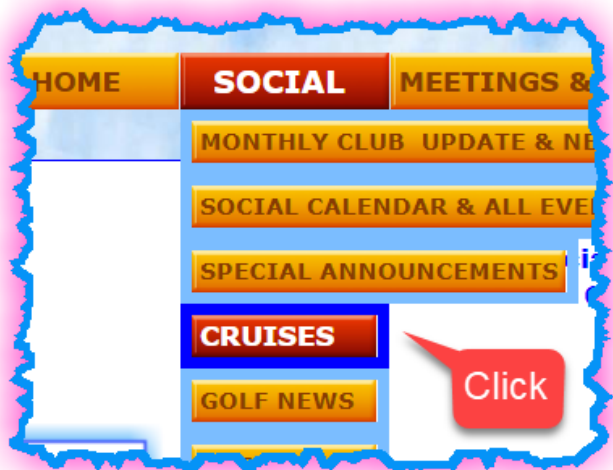
**TO VIEW [TRAVELEX INSURANCE COMPANY POLICY](#), please click on [Travelex link](#):**

<https://marcomensclub.com/ComingEvents2/998K-50th-Australia-NewZeland-TRAVELEXpolicy.pfd>

PLEASE GO TO THE MMC WEBSITE  
& USE THE DROPDOWN MENU,  
AVAILABLE ON ALMOST EVERY  
PAGE, FOR ALL THE LATEST  
INFORMATION ON MMC **CRUISES**.

...OR FOLLOW THIS LINK:

<https://marcomensclub.com/Cruises.htm>



**Contact Bob Marks at:**  
[bobmarksmi@hotmail.com](mailto:bobmarksmi@hotmail.com)  
239-642-0370

August 2021

The Marco Men's Club  
**Speakers Calendar**  
Peter Piro, Program Director

**August 12, 2021**

**Craig Keeling**  
**Middle East**

Craig Keeling is retired. His last job was Vice President Middle East Programs DynCorp International Aviation responsible for DynCorp Aviation Programs in the Middle East. Prior to joining DynCorp, Craig was ITT Program Manager for Contracts in Kuwait and Qatar providing depot maintenance support to the US Army and USMC for Operation Enduring Freedom.

From 1996 to 2006 Craig worked for Raytheon. His positions included General Manager of Raytheon International Middle East Ltd. and Country Manager for Saudi Arabia, Jordan and Lebanon.

Craig was the Manager of Raytheon Saudi Arabian Programs Office and Deputy Program Manager for the Raytheon Saudi Programs in support of Raytheon HAWK and PATRIOT Contracts to Saudi Arabia.

Prior to joining Raytheon, Craig served in numerous US Army operational assignments including Command of a deployed Nuclear Capable Missile Unit.

Craig graduated from West Point in 1977 with a Bachelor of Science degree.

He completed his Master's degree Operations Research Systems Analysis Engineering in 1986.

**Proposed Speakers for the coming year:**

September: Geoff Fahringer – Situational Awareness

October: Darcey Guerin - Financial Acumen

November: Dr. James Faremouth – Medicinal Marijuana

**Peter Piro**

August 2021

# Golf News

Bob Winterhalter, Golf Chair  
Phone: 239-389-0825  
Cell: 614-264-0021  
Email: [robertswinterhalter@gmail.com](mailto:robertswinterhalter@gmail.com)

Thanks to **Tom McCullough** for coordinating Mondays at Lely Mustang in July.

Monday coordinator at Lely for the month of August is **Bob Boland**.

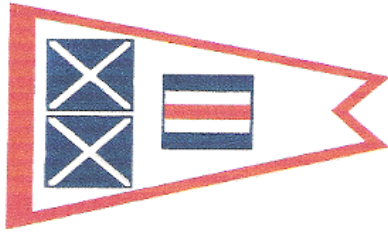
Friday coordinator for the Traveling Group in August is **Chris Hansen**.

As you can see below, our most urgent need is an October Friday Coordinator, if we want to play golf then. If you can only help for the first few weeks, I can arrange the rest of the month.

## MMC GOLF COORDINATORS SUMMER / FALL 2021

|           |        |                         |  |              |
|-----------|--------|-------------------------|--|--------------|
| August    | Monday | <b>Bob Boland</b>       | <a href="mailto:RLBoland@comcast.net">RLBoland@comcast.net</a>         | 239-595-8780 |
| August    | Friday | <b>Chris Hansen</b>     | <a href="mailto:chrishansen16@icloud.com">chrishansen16@icloud.com</a> | 630-674-5565 |
| September | Monday | <b>Bob Hansen</b>       | <a href="mailto:rhansen4@aol.com">rhansen4@aol.com</a>                 | 239-394-7775 |
| September | Friday | <b>Tony Tomassone</b>   | <a href="mailto:tonytom_52@msn.com">tonytom_52@msn.com</a>             | 610-937-2324 |
| October   | Monday | <b>Bob Phelan</b>       | <a href="mailto:bobjphelan1@gmail.com">bobjphelan1@gmail.com</a>       | 239-272-4820 |
| October   | Friday | <b>NEED COORDINATOR</b> |  |              |

**Bob Winterhalter**



# 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. August 2021*

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**President:** Jerry Swiacki

**President Emeritus:** Jeff Dywan

**Senior Vice President:** Warren Uhl

**Vice President:** Ray Seward

**Vice President:** Tim Clune

**Vice President:** Dave Tobiasz

**Secretary:** Mike Levine

**Treasurer:** Rudy Landwaard

### APPOINTED COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

**Membership Chair:** Warren Uhl

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**Public Relations:** Dave Walsh

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**Golf Chair:** Bob Winterhalter

**Sports Chair:** Pat Wright

**Program Director:** Peter Piro

**Cruise Chair:** Bob Marks

**Sergeant-At-Arms:** Mike Levine

**Sickness/Bereavement Chair:** George Vitta

**Newsletter Editor:** Lou Makris

**Membership Communications:** Bill Rogers

**Investment Group:** Don Koppel

**Computer/Technology Club:** Charlie Erker

**Travel Discussion Club:** Silky Sullivan

**Webmaster:** Ed Crane

[www.marcomensclub.com](http://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

2020: Jerry Swiacki

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