

May 2022

The Marco Men's Club

# Newsletter



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

Established 1992  
A non-profit organization

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I want to acknowledge **Jerry Swiacki** for his two years of devotion to the club as Past President. He was “Drafted” by the then nominating committee. I cannot say, he came kicking and screaming, but eventually he was overcome and “volunteered”. It turned out to be an imposing period. COVID had just hit. Everything about a social club was turned on its head; “social by yourself” was the watch word. Initially cancellations were necessary as everything closed. Slowly, Zoom meetings, outdoor meetings and outdoor venues started us back to a new normal. I want to personally thank Jerry for all his hard work and guiding hand. He has more than earned his gold name tag.

So, a new president starts his year in the Marco Men's Club. I must say I come with no agenda. I

plan to “run” the Club in generally the same way as the past. I want the club in the same or better shape when I am finished.

For my opening shot; I need volunteers, hosts for the coming year. I plan to help **Dave Tobiasz** our senior VP in finding members to fill the voids.

How can I measure the club, for me it is simple, participation, more members, and more attendance at events. The past two and a half years of COVID fear has really hampered club activity.

Being taught to be “anti-social” hasn't helped a social club. Participation has suffered. In the past 6 months we had 80 at the Hurricane Ball, and 136 at the Sweet Heart ball. Those are the biggest numbers we have seen in a long while, but still below historic numbers. We have a Black and White 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala this

month, and as of this writing 80 are signed up. With 401 current members, that is 19%, member participation.

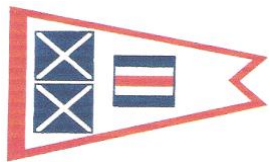
This club runs because many give their time to make it happen. Three groups do this, Board, Chairmen, and Hosts. Without them we are nothing, sitting in the “Gin mill” reminiscing about our youth. Stay active, plan to sign up for the next activity and get involved.

We have to welcome a few new first-time hosts. **Tony Marco** joined in December; he noted on his application that he wished to host. So, I tasked him with the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala. With a big bit, he and Joann jumped in with both feet. **Steve Furlong** joined last July; he hosted a theater event last month. **Mark Geis** joined early 2019; he hosted My Fair Lady, last month. **Tom Kramer** has been a member for a number of years, and hosted two events recently, a dinner night, last fall and a theater event this month. **Chris Hanson** joined late 2019; he has stepped up to be Golf Chairman and is hosting his first Scramble. **Mike Ballenger** and **Arne Sandberg** each hosted an event this past year, and you

elected them to Vice-Presidents positions. **Rick Johnson** has asked to take Bocce of my hands. This is just a small list of Guys stepping up to do their part. I thank you guys and encourage others to say “yes” and do their part. Hosting is not difficult and if your wife really likes to put on a party, we are looking for you.

On another note, you may have an interest shared by other members. You are encouraged to start up other social gatherings around a common interest.

***Warren Uhl***



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May 2022

# The Marco Men's Club Club News

## COMPUTER/TECHNOLOGY CLUB

Computer/Technology Club typically meets the 3rd Thursday of the month at 11:30 AM at CJ's. This is an informal round table discussion group.

Beginners, experienced and in-between are all welcome. Reservations are not required. **Club will be on hiatus until October.**

Contact **Charlie Erker** at 239-259-8054  
Or [charles.a.erker@gmail.com](mailto:charles.a.erker@gmail.com) .

## INVESTMENT DISCUSSION CLUB



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 Club typically meets the third Wednesday of the month at 1:30PM at the Marco Lutheran Church. We will be meeting in the choir room, please enter through the administrative offices.

**Contact Don Koppel Ph:856-906-4318. Meeting status will be through an eBlast the week before the meeting.**

## BOCCE BALL



**Bocce season has ended.** You will be hearing from the new Bocce Commissioner Rick Johnson in

November, with a call to sign-up for the 2023 season.

For a recap of the 2022 Bocce season, please view Bocce page following Club News section.

Contact **Rick Johnson** at 612-840-9723  
[MMC.BocceLeague@gmail.com](mailto:MMC.BocceLeague@gmail.com)

For Bocce results/news click on link:  
<https://marcomensclub.com/BocceBall.htm>

## Travel Discussion Club



The next Travel Discussion Club meeting will be on Wednesday, May,4th at CJ's starting at 11AM.

Lunch is optional. Spouses or significant others are always welcome and are encouraged to attend.

The club discusses any country or option you'd like. You can get ideas for future travel and/or help others by giving them ideas. Let me know by phone or

email if there are topics you'd like discussed at the May meeting. Also, after this meeting, the Travel Discussion Club meetings will be suspended until October and will not be meeting during the summer months.

Hints for those planning trips:

1. Check online for specific requirements when you plan your trip.
2. Take proof of your vaccination status.
3. Consider purchasing travel insurance.
4. Double-check your passport early. It takes 4 ½ months to renew.
5. Apply for TSA PreCheck or Global Entry.
6. Pack multiple masks. (Pack hand sanitizer, Lysol spray, wipes, and water in your carryon bag).

Let me know if I can help in any way. Contact **SILKY SULLIVAN** [marcosilky@yahoo.com](mailto:marcosilky@yahoo.com) or 239-404-3249.

## SPORTS UPDATE

The Miami Dolphins schedule will be released in May. We have booked group tickets with a \$1000 deposit. Several mid-west teams are coming in-Packers, Steelers, Vikings, Browns. Exact dates have not been established yet. Last years' seats for NY Giants were \$120 in the bleachers and this year's prices will probably be more. I would like to hear from members that would like to go to one of these games. No commitment until a schedule is released. We need a minimum of 10. Please email me with thoughts or ideas.

[Jjtpm11697@yahoo.com](mailto:Jjtpm11697@yahoo.com) Thanks!  
Jack Martin 347-837-2131

## 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** header. Click on **CLOTHING & ACCESSORIES** to obtain Order Form and Instructions.

## SICKNESS AND BEREAVEMENT

Our friend and longtime club member, Richard 'Dick' Siska, passed away over the weekend of April 23<sup>rd</sup>, in Jacksonville, FL. His daughters mentioned that a memorial service would be planned for June, here on Marco Island. Will follow up with information, when received.

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.

# 2022 MMC Bocce Season Recap

We had 76 members and wives play a 10 week season and 4 weeks of a double elimination tournament.

For the season:

	Tuesday	Thursday
1 <sup>st</sup> place	Cary and Anne Vanic Dave and sandy Fuhrman	Ray and Kathy Davis Dave and Mo Hodgkinson
2 <sup>nd</sup> place	Dave Tobiasz and Leesa Carls Tom and Sue Olmsted	Warren Uhl and Owen O'Shaughnessy Tony and Adele Meilan
3 <sup>rd</sup> place	Dennis and Penny Hoetzel Terry and Mary Anderson	Rod and Anne Link Rob and Terry Pike

For the tournament:

Champions	Dave Tobiasz and Leesa Carls Tom and Sue Olmsted	Glen and Carolyn Davis Don Kautzky and Dennis Faruol
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# CRUISES



GUESTS OUTSIDE GROUP AFTER MAY 20<sup>TH</sup>, SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE SPACE: HOWEVER, THE MMC AUSTRALIA CRUISE PACKAGE AFTER MAY 20<sup>TH</sup> WILL HAVE A COST INCREASE OF \$2,542 PER PERSON. OUR CRUISE AC2 CATEGORY CURRENTLY COSTING \$5,490 PER PERSON, WILL COST AFTER MAY 21 \$8,032, REPRESENTING AN ADDITIONAL \$5,084 FOR A DOUBLE STATEROOM.

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## **THE MMC "50<sup>th</sup>" CRUISE AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND OCTOBER 22 - November 5, 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 91 PEOPLE CONFIRMED IN 49 STATEROOMS.**

A VERY POPULAR CRUISE. LIMITED STATEROOMS AVAILABLE IN EACH CATEGORY. A CELEBRITY'S STATEROOM ON-BOARD BONUS CREDIT FOR \$200 FOR BOOKING CONFIRMED BY MAY 4<sup>TH</sup>. ALL FLYERS WITH CRUISE DETAILS AND RESERVATION FORMS AVAILABLE ON CLUB'S WEB-SITE.

**THE OPPORTUNITY TO BOOK MMC SPACE FOR AUSTRALIA IS FAST COMING TO A CLOSE ON MAY 20<sup>TH</sup>. WE MAY CONTINUE TO BOOK**

## **THE MMC "51<sup>st</sup>" CRUISE CHINA, TAIWAN, JAPAN FEBRUARY 17- MARCH 4, 2023**

### **CELEBRITY HAS CANCELLED THE JAPAN CRUISE**

DEAR VALUED TRAVEL PARTNER, WE ARE CONTACTING YOU TO PROVIDE AN UPDATE ON THE STATUS OF YOUR CLIENT'S 2022/23 CRUISE VACATION.

**DUE TO THE ONGOING UNCERTAINTY REGARDING THE RESTART OF INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS IN THE ASIA REGION, WE HAVE MADE THE DIFFICULT DECISION TO CANCEL OUR CELEBRITY SOLSTICE SAILINGS IN THIS PART OF THE WORLD AND WILL BE RELOCATING THE SHIP TO THE MEXICAN RIVIERA.**

AS A RESULT, WE WILL BE CANCELLING ALL CELEBRITY SOLSTICE ASIA SAILINGS CURRENTLY SCHEDULED TO DEPART SEPTEMBER 16, 2022 THROUGH APRIL 21, 2023. AT THIS TIME, WE WOULD LIKE TO OFFER GUEST CHOICE OF BEING RE-ACCOMMODATED ON ANOTHER CELEBRITY CRUISE OR A 100% REFUND. **CELEBRITY CRUISES.**

**CELEBRITY'S POLICY UPDATED  
COVID-19 INFORMATION:**

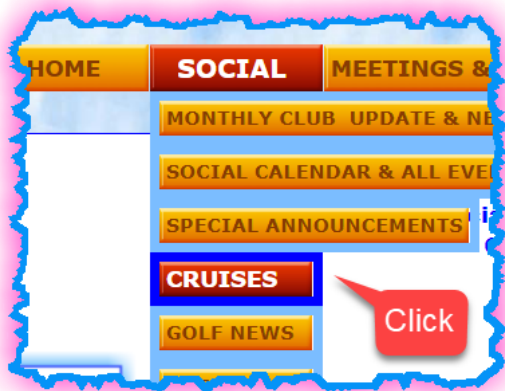
- **GUEST DIAGNOSED WITH COVID-19 WITHIN 14 DAYS BEFORE DEPARTURE RECEIVES 100 PERCENT OF MONIES PAID.**
- **GUEST WHO BECOME INFECTED WITH COVID-19 ABOARD SHIP WILL BE FLOWN HOME AT CELEBRITIES' EXPENSE BY PRIVATE PLANE.**

**TO VIEW TRAVELEX INSURANCE COMPANY POLICY**

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

May 2022

The Marco Men's Club  
**Speakers Calendar**  
John DeMado, Program Director

**May 11, 2022**

**Ms. Linda Oberhaus**

**An update on the status of Domestic Violence and Human Trafficking in our community.**

Gentlemen... This is a 'Woman of Consequence' and a speaker NOT TO BE MISSED! On Wednesday, May 11, 2022, the Marco Men's Club is honored to welcome Ms. Linda Oberhaus as our guest speaker. Her topic will be as follows: **"An update on the status of domestic violence & human trafficking in our community."** As attested to by the vitae below, Ms.

Oberhaus is consummately qualified for the position she holds. This presentation will shine a bright light on the effects of domestic violence and human trafficking right here in Southwest Florida.

With more than 30 years of professional experience in the human services field, Linda Oberhaus is the CEO of The Shelter for Abused Women & Children in Naples, FL. She has led The Shelter for Abused Woman & Children since 2007 as its Chief Executive Officer, and in 2021 became President of FPEDV, Florida's new federally recognized domestic violence coalition. Ms. Oberhaus previously served as the Executive Director for the certified

domestic violence center in Tampa, Florida. Her current Vitae and Credits:

- Harvard Kennedy School, 2012 Performance Measurement for Effective Management of Nonprofit Organizations
- Harvard Business School, 2009 Strategic Perspectives in Nonprofit Management
- Eckerd College, 2004 Leadership Development Institute
- MASTER'S DEGREE, Social Work University of South Florida 2000
- BACHELOR'S DEGREE, Social Work University of South Florida 1994

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**June 8, 2022**

**Mr. Mike McNees**

**City Manager Marco Island**

**STAY INFORMED! Come learn more about your community and what it takes to run it! The Marco Men's Club welcomes Mr. Mike McNees, City Manager of Marco Island on Wednesday, June 8, 2022!**

Mike McNees assumed the role of Marco Island City Manager on July 1, 2019. Before that he served as City Manager for Melbourne on Florida's Space Coast.



McNees started his thirty-plus year career in public service in the early 1980's when he moved from the private sector into an entry-level job in Collier County Government. 17 years later he left his position as Assistant Collier County Manager to become City Manager in Sarasota, Florida, a position he held for six years. He then moved to the mountains to become the first County Administrator of Blaine County, Idaho which covers 2800 square miles and includes the Sun Valley ski resort.

In 2009 Mike was recruited by a former associate to the position of Chief Operating Office for USA Track and Field, and a year later was unexpectedly thrust into the Chief Executive Officer's role. In two years in that position, he took Team USA to the Pan American Games in Guadalajara, Mexico, and to World Championship events in Istanbul, Turkey and Daegu, South Korea, while negotiating the necessary contracts for the execution of the 2012 USA Olympic Track and Field Trials in Eugene, Oregon. McNees subsequently returned to public service in Melbourne in early 2013.

Mike is a native Hoosier who received a degree in Chemistry from Indiana University, where he was a Big Ten Conference Champion in track and field. He served as Assistant Track Coach at Louisiana Tech University while earning his Masters' Degree in Business Administration.

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**July 13, 2022**  
**Steve (Stef) Stefanides**

## **Writer/Columnist-Marco Island Coastal Breeze**

Gentlemen... this is one not to miss! a great contributor to our island and a consummate weaver of tales!... Steve (Stef) Stefanides!

Steve Stefanides, better known throughout the island simply as "Stef" has been a fulltime resident of Marco Island for 32 years, having arrived on Marco in 1990 from his home state of New Hampshire. He had originally purchased his first residence in 1986 and would visit often during the four years before making Marco his permanent residence.

Before moving to Marco, he attended public schools and would graduate from the University of New Hampshire system with a B.S. in Education and was very active within his community. He would serve in elective office as a City Councilor in Concord New Hampshire for two terms, as well as a term in the New Hampshire House of Representatives and the Merrimack County Delegation.

He would serve six years with the NH National Guard with the 397<sup>th</sup> Medical Detachment. He would obtain the rank of Staff Sergeant (E6) and would be in charge of the Detachment's Flight Medics on Huey Helicopters within the state.

"Stef" would spend four years as a career firefighter with the City of Concord Department before teaching history two years before beginning an almost 40-year career in sales and

marketing for two U.S. manufacturers of fire and EMS apparatus and equipment.

Over the years he has been very active within the community serving on a number of committees and boards throughout Marco, including the YMCA's Board of Directors, Transition Committee for Facilities for the City, Master Planning Committee for the Veterans Community Park, City of Marco Island Budget Review Committee, the Disaster Relief Fund Raising Committee for Hurricane Katrina Victims, the Marco Island Sunrise Rotary, Board of Directors for Sunrise Rotary, the Original Veterans Memorial Planning Committee, President of the Board of Directors for the Town House Square Condo Association and for 16 years the Chairman of Christmas Island Style.

Up until two years ago Stef was an avid motorcyclist, having traveled by two wheels throughout the country and writing blogs while on those trips. Golf and boating have also been great loves of his.

animals, reptiles and birds that live within it, this is the man to reference. On this visit to the MMC, Mr. McConville will focus his attention on a resident of our local waters... The Bottlenose Dolphin.

Bob McConville is a Master Naturalist, certified through the University of Florida and has been studying the Bottlenose Dolphin population around Marco Island for more than 10 years. He is the author of 2 books and a 2-time national award-winning columnist for Coastal Breeze News. His quarterly reports regarding the team's dolphin study reach around the world, including colleges, universities, NOAA, FWC, and other dolphin study programs.

Please make a point of attending our August 10, 2022 meeting to learn more about the wonders of the environment around you!

***John DeMado***

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**August 10, 2022**  
**Bob McConville**  
**Master Naturalist**  
**2-time national award-winning**  
**columnist/Marco Island Coastal**  
**Breeze**

Gentlemen... I am truly pleased to present Bob McConville, once again, to the Marco Men's Club. When it comes to the natural beauty that surrounds us here in Southwest Florida, as well as the

May 2022

# Golf News



Chris Hansen, Golf Chairman

Cell: 630-674-5565

Email: [chrishansen16@icloud.com](mailto:chrishansen16@icloud.com)

## Spring Scramble, Eagle Lakes, April 25 Scramble Results

1<sup>st</sup> place \$40ea: Jerry Swiacki, John McCullough, Tom McCullough, Warren Uhl

2<sup>nd</sup> place \$30ea: Chris Hansen, Dave Chaney, Bill Krepplein, Gary Papszycki

3<sup>rd</sup> place \$20ea: Rick Grisolia, Ray Cavanaugh, Bob Winterhalter, Fred Wojcik.

4<sup>th</sup> place: Ron Bales, Glenn Davis, Jeff Kaczka, Jack Martin

Closest to the pin: Ed Gerri, Bob Winterhalter, Chris Hansen, Ken Burnham

Longest Putt: Gary Papszycki

Longest Drive: Roger Smith

**Most improved golfer of the year award: Peter Way**

\$100 raffle winner: Steve Billmyer

\$50 raffle winner: unknown

\$25 raffle winner: Harry Weathers

**We had 52 players, 13 teams. Thanks to all who participated. Congratulations to winners**

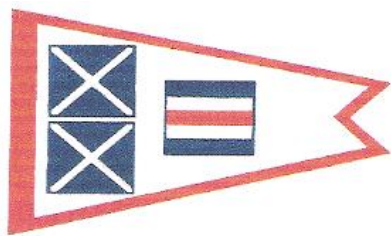
Tim Sullivan shot better than his age Monday, March 28, when he shot 79

TK Rao, Golf Only player, shot his age March 28, when he shot 78

## MMC GOLF COORDINATORS SPRING/SUMMER 2022

May	Monday	<b>John Laird</b>	<a href="mailto:jglaird64@gmail.com">jglaird64@gmail.com</a>	920-366-4652
May	Friday	<b>Jeff Dywan</b>	<a href="mailto:j.j.dywan@gmail.com">j.j.dywan@gmail.com</a>	219-718-9615
June	Monday	<b>Bob Vanderselt</b>	<a href="mailto:BVanderselt@stomaventures.com">BVanderselt@stomaventures.com</a>	314-378-0516
June	Friday	<b>Frank Sroka</b>	<a href="mailto:fsroka74@gmail.com">fsroka74@gmail.com</a>	239-272-4328

**Chris Hansen**



## 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 2022*

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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**Vice President:** Tim Clune

**Vice President:** Rob Reiley

**Vice President:** Arne Sandberg

**Vice President:** Dave Tobiasz

**Secretary:** Tom Kramer

**Treasurer:** Rudy Landwaard

#### APPOINTED COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

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**Public Relations:** Dave Walsh

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**Cruise Chair:** Bob Marks

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**Newsletter Editor:** Lou Makris

**Membership Communications:** Bill Rogers

**Investment Discussion Club:** 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

2021: Jerry Swiacki

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