

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

July 2022

The Marco Men's Club Newsletter



Established 1992
A non-profit organization

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Let's talk about the elephant in the room, my wife's passing. Many have lost a wife, pardon me, it's my first time. I have always anticipated she would precede me, because of her health issues, I was thinking ten to twelve years from now. Reality check! We were to celebrate our 50th Anniversary on the Australian cruise with the kids; we have been a "thing" since 10th grade.

Donna did have an ovarian cancer, ten years. It developed malignant tumors in her belly area. Surgery was able to remove them and chemo was able to limit them. It was not her killer. she was fading over the past two years, starting with a very bad bout with COVID. The decline was at a rate that was difficult to notice. It was

measured in her endurance. Then in November the pace of decline accelerated. It coincided with intestinal issues. In January she spent a week in the hospital, tests, tests, and more tests. Nothing found.

May 7th, she had an event, perhaps the result of a bladder infection or in conjunction with blood issues, off to the ER. Doctors fought blood issues, too thick too thin, clotting in samples, not enough hemoglobin, too low on platelets, and early on mini strokes. Then finally a bone marrow biopsy was performed. After 33 ICU days, the real killer was revealed, Lymphoma. Look up the symptoms, Donna had them. She was "wiped" by this time. In Donna's own words when

she heard the diagnosis “no more treatment”. Notwithstanding, the hospital wasn’t offering treatment. Hospice was now the path forward. On her first evening in Hospice with a drug or two in her, she said “I’m comfortable”. Ninety hours later, she passed.

I have to write this because I get too emotional to say it. Near the end, she had not accepted that she was dying, but she knew she was. In one statement she noted “When I get out, I’m going to write a thank you to everyone that sent a card.” And in the next statement she cried, “My kids are moving to Florida and I won’t be here.”

It hurts; it’s like losing your right hand. I’ll survive, but looking for a cook.....someone right-handed. Thank you to all that sent a note or attended the service, it helps to hear from people who care. The kids moving to Florida will help too. Dry your eyes and let’s move on.

June had 3 activities. **Mike Levine** hosted a Co-Ed lunch at Cocomos with 21 in attendance. **Tim Clune** hosted a Father’s Day

dinner with 18 in attendance. **Dave Tobiasz** hosted “Something Rotten” at the Sugden with 47 attending as well as 47 for dinner. That was a sellout.

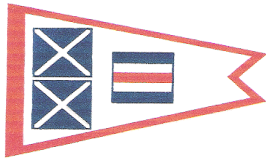
I’m a bit concerned about Father’s Day. Why was attendance so muted? I suspect many had family in. I personally had a conflict. Perhaps the price? At your next opportunity, share with me, why you chose not to attend. Perhaps we need a new event for June, I know, Juneteenth!

Friday July 8th, we have “Bastille Day Dinner”. You will have to wait until the 14th to “Storm the Bastille” however. **Rudi Landwaard** is hosting the event. The food is good; it will be our second year at Café Normandie, and I will see you there. After the General Meeting July 13th, there will be a box lunch from Stonewalls at the church, for those signed up. **Dave Tobiasz** is your host. Our Wednesday General meeting speaker will be **Steve (Stef) Stefanides**, Writer/Columnist Marco Island Coastal Breeze.

Last year we had “Date Night” at Andre’s Steakhouse. About 40 attended. It is pricey, it is in Naples. All are looking forward to an excellent porterhouse again this year. Thursday September 22, we will do it again. **Tom Kramer** is your host. Did I mention pricey, \$85 per person, but it’s worth it, unless you pick the salmon.

Warren Uhl

July 2022



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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 .

INVESTMENT DISCUSSION CLUB

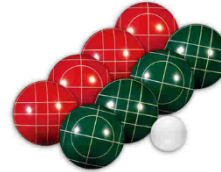


This is a gathering where opinions are valued, facts are appreciated and experience is not

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 Chairman, Rick Johnson in November,

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

Contact **Rick Johnson** at 612-840-9723
MMC.BocceLeague@gmail.com

TRAVEL DISCUSSION CLUB



The Travel Discussion Club will not be meeting during the summer months. **Meetings will resume in October.**

Typically, the Club meets the first Wednesday of the month at CJ's at 11:00AM. 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 topic's you'd like discussed at the October meeting.

TRAVEL PLANS

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 or 239-404-3249.

SPORTS UPDATE

Based on the schedule issued by the Miami Dolphins, the Club has decided to **not** book a game in Miami this season. We will look into other events. 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

Donna Uhl, wife of club member and President Warren Uhl, passed away on Monday June 13, 2022. So many of our members and spouses supported Donna and Warren during her prolonged illness. A memorial service was held at Marco Lutheran Church on Sunday, June 19, 2022.

A Founding member, Charles Alaimo, passed away on Sunday, June 12, 2022. Charles is survived by his wife, Lourdes. A memorial service is planned for July 23rd at 11:00AM, San Marco Catholic Church. A meal will be served at the Jewish Congregation of Marco Island on Winterberry Dr., after church service.

Please telephone **George Vitta** at 586-942-8056 or email 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 “50th” 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.

BOOKING FOR THIS CRUISE IS NO LONGER AVAILABLE. “THIS AUSTRALIA/NEW ZEALAND ITINERARY IS A GO FOR OUR 87 CONFIRMED GUESTS”

ALL FLYERS WITH CRUISE DETAILS AVAILABLE ON CLUB’S WEBSITE.

THE MMC “51st” CRUISE CHINA, TAIWAN, JAPAN FEBRUARY 17- MARCH 4, 2023

CELEBRITY HAS CANCELLED THE JAPAN CRUISE

THE MMC “53RD” CRUISE ‘ITALY, CROATIA, GREECE, MONTENEGRO’ JUNE 15 – JUNE 28, 2023

FIFTEEN DAYS, THIRTEEN NIGHTS, VISITING “8” PORTS OF CALL IN “4” EUROPEAN COUNTRIES, SAILING ABOARD CELEBRITY’S NEWEST “5” STAR SHIP THE “**BEYOND**”, 10 NIGHTS DEPARTING ROME, ITALY, 2 NIGHTS POST CRUISE STAY IN ROME’S QUIRINALE HOTEL WITH INCLUSIVE DAILY BREAKFAST AND ROME TOURS.

THE CRUISE PACKAGE SAILING ABOARD CELEBRITY’S LUXURIOUS “THE BEYOND” WITH THE STATEROOM’S INFINITE BALCONIES INCLUDES: CELEBRITY’S ROUND TRIP MIAMI TO ROME ECONOMY AIR, 10 NIGHTS SAILING ABOARD CELEBRITY’S NEWEST LUXURIOUS “5” STAR THE “**BEYOND**”, 2 NIGHTS POST IN HOTEL QUIRINALE, EUROPEAN RATED FOUR STARS IN HEART OF ROME, DAILY HOTEL BREAKFAST AND TOURS, A \$200 STATEROOM ON BOARD CREDIT AND THREE PERKS: THE CLASSIC BEVERAGE PACKAGE. GRATUITIES, AND FREE WI-FI. FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, GO TO CLUB’S WEBSITE AND CLICK ON CRUISES.

TO VIEW CELEBRITY CRUISE LINES HEALTHCARE GUIDELINES 2022 AND LATEST COVID-19 POLICY, PLEASE GO TO CLUB’S WEBSITE AND

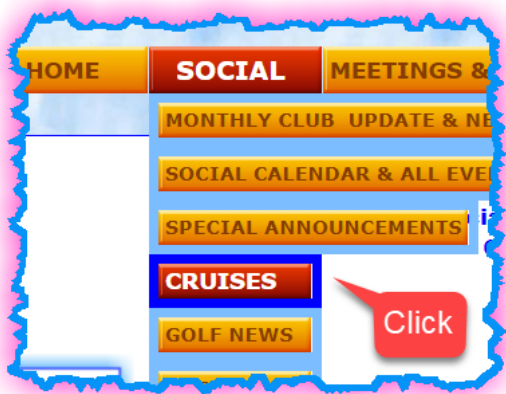
**CLICK ON CRUISES FOR
LATEST INFORMATION.**

**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
239-642-0370

July 2022

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

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 397th 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.

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 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!

September 14, 2022
Keith Pershing
ASE Master Certified Automotive Technician Island Automotive, Marco Island, FL
Topic: The Impact of Ethanol Fuel on Your Engine.

Keith Pershing, has been a Marco Island resident since 1972 as well as a member of Wesley United Methodist. Notably, Mr. Pershing has been recognized as an ASE Master Certified Automotive Technician since 1977. ASE is the abbreviation for the National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence. Since the early 1970's, this independent, non-profit organization has worked to improve the quality of vehicle repair and service by testing and certifying automotive professionals.

As a member of the Naples and Marco chapter of the Antique Auto Club of America for approximately 40 years, Keith has also served as its Vice President and is a former member and officer in Collier County Auto Service Association.

Mr. Pershing has owned and operated Island Automotive since 1979. Along with his Island Automotive staff, he provides a full range of automotive services... From routine maintenance and repair of your daily driver to

complete restoration services of antique and classic automobiles. Many of his restored cars have gone on to win local, state, and even national car show awards.

John DeMado

July 2022

Golf News



Chris Hansen, Golf Chairman

Cell: 630-674-5565

Email: chrishansen16@icloud.com

July Golf News

The Fall Scramble 2022 has been set for Monday, October 24, 2022 at the Glades Golf & Country Club. Start time will be at 8:30AM, with shotgun start.

The price will be \$80.00 for MMC members & Golf Only players and \$90.00 for guests.

Entry fee includes golf, cart, lunch, plus prizes & gifts after the event.

Be on the lookout for the entry form for the Fall Scramble in the weeks ahead.

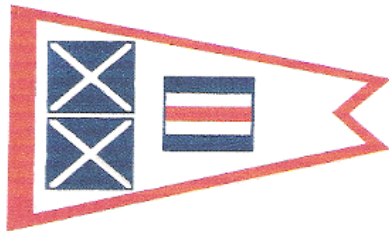
MMC Golf June Numbers

We have 115 golfers on our MMC League Handicap Report. 151 rounds were posted by 52 different players over the course of the month. We played 7 dates in June on 7 different courses; June 3 was a rainout. On 3 Fridays we had guys on 2 different courses. Four of the courses were excellent golf courses available to us because of Golf-Pass pricing and the off season.

MMC GOLF COORDINATORS SUMMER/FALL 2022

July	Monday	Tom McCullough	tamccullough@comcast.net	570-690-4055
July	Friday	Mike Mueller	mikemfla@comcast.net	239-272-4328
August	Monday	Steve Billmyer	stevenjb@centurylink.net	360-378-7860
August	Friday	Ron Kelley	kelleys205@comcast.net	239-304-6267
September	Monday	Barry Gelfand	bcgelfand@comcast.net	978-302-9961
September	Friday	Glenn Davis	gdavis@apexpkg.com	215-872-1779
October	Monday	Bob Phelan	bobphelan1@gmail.com	239-272-4820
October	Friday	Jeff Comeaux	Comeaux411@icloud.com	847-951-3400

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. July 2022

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Vice President: Rob Reiley

Vice President: Arne Sandberg

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Treasurer: Rudy Landwaard

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Bocce Coordinator: Rick Johnson

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Sickness/Bereavement Chair: George Vitta

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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

Past Presidents (*indicates deceased):

1992: Paul Kurtzman

1993: Bill Perdichizzi

1994: Harold Penn*

1995: Bob Marks

1996: George Kuntz*

1997: Alan Wetjen*

1998: George Godfrey

1999: Jerry Stought*

2000: Jerry Stought*

2001: Ned Wright

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2009: Joe Varano

2010: Bill Sullivan

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2012: Randle Grossman

2013: Jack DeHanas

2014: John Superits

2015: Warren Dettinger

2016: Dan Flynn

2017: Silky Sullivan

2018: Bill Rogers

2019: Jeff Dywan

2020: Jerry Swiacki

2021: Jerry Swiacki