

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

The Marco Men's Club

September 2023

Newsletter

Established 1992
A non-profit organization

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Greetings!

As you might expect, I write this near the beginning of the month in order to get it through our processes and into the newsletter. So today,

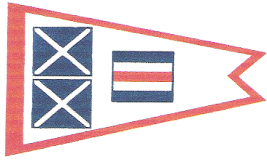
I sit here watching radar of Idalia as it passes through the gulf and thinking its soon going to be time for our Hurricane Ball. Everything is set for another great event! This year the Hurricane Ball will be on Saturday, October 21st at Bistro Soleil; you know the food will be excellent! The flyer is posted, so send in your checks.

We're headed north to Alaska! Announcing the 56th cruise at the end of May 2024. With an optional land tour to Denali and a cruise on the inside passage from Seward to Vancouver, this will be a great experience. Everything you need to know is posted on the website.

In the meantime, there will be an October lunch at the Italian Deli. Also in October two plays: Hairspray on October 12 at the Broadway Palm (includes lunch) and 39 Steps at the Marco ART Center Theater (with optional dinner afterward at Speakeasy). Book soon as seats are limited!

New flyers for additional events are posted regularly, so check the website often!

Dave Tobiasz



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The Marco Men's Club Club News

COMPUTER/TECHNOLOGY CLUB



Steve Furlong is now facilitating the club discussion. The goal remains the same, use the experience and wisdom of the group to help folks with technology. Need help with your new iPhone, Ring camera, iPad or other device? Having problems downloading a new App? Don't understand what this thing called WhatsApp is and how it can save you money on your next cruise trip? This is the place to get help! The next meeting will be on October 3rd at 10AM at Ori's. Bring your topics to discuss! Steve will demo some artificial intelligence tools that can be used in your daily life to make you smarter and more efficient.

Contact **Steve Furlong** at 309-662-9101

Or stevenrichardfurlong@gmail.com.

INVESTMENT DISCUSSION CLUB

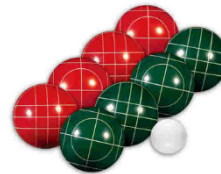


This is a gathering where opinions are valued, facts are appreciated and experience is not necessary, but prized. An open and broad discussion of topics relating to investment raised by those present, is conducted. The Club meets the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 1:30PM at the Marco Lutheran Church.

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



Good news for the Bocce League. The Bocce courts at Mackle Park went through a major renovation this summer. Looking forward to seeing you all this October.

Contact **Rick Johnson** at MMC.BocceLeague@gmail.com

TRAVEL DISCUSSION GROUP



Lively discussion planned regarding latest travel developments and favorite destinations. Air travel, cruising, over the road – new regulations, procedures, requirements and pronouncements. War stories. Add your input, ask any questions. Meetings are held the first Wednesday of the month in the Marco Lutheran Church Choir Room.

Contact Joe Covelli at 412-527-5876 or jeffersonjoe@comcast.net

MMC TRAVEL CLUB



Marco Island Men's Club has added a new benefit to all members. We have been working on establishing a group travel activity

alongside our Cruise offerings. Future trips will include many destinations that club members have suggested: USA, Europe, South America etc. Our first trip is a 9 Day classic tour of many of our National Parks; MT RUSHMORE, YELLOWSTONE AND GRAND TETON WITH BADLANDS. The Total Cost is \$3164 per person. The trip begins on September 19 from RSW and ends on September 27 departing from Salt Lake City. To view package details, refer to [Travel Club](#) on Club Website. Contact **Tim Clune** tclune@gmail.com 248-980-6142 with your suggestions for a future MMC group trip.

SPORTS UPDATE

There are 2 tickets left for NY Jets vs Miami Dolphins on Sunday, December 17, 2023 at 1PM. Price is \$155 per ticket. Section 338PT. Seating through Group Sales was limited to the top 5 rows in a section, which is about 40 rows up. The only alternative was the "Party Terrace" which is located on the bottom level of the 300 section-**no stairs**. There are no assigned seats but there are bar stools available for those that arrive earliest. There is also direct access to a bar. This was the best alternative to walking up 40 rows. Contact **Jack Martin** at 347-837-2131 or jjtpm11697@yahoo.com

HOSPITALITY

Thanks to the guys who set up the room. Chairman, **DON KOPPEL, RICH CARLSEN, DON LALLY, and DEREK MULLINDER.**

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



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 “54th” CRUISE
ESSENCE OF BURGUNDY &
PROVENCE
RIVERBOAT CRUISE AND TOUR
ABOARD AMAWATERWAYS
“AMACELLO”.
GENEVA, SWITZERLAND – NICE,
FRANCE
OCTOBER 15 – OCTOBER 26, 2023

BURGUNDY & PROVENCE (GENEVA TO NICE) RIVERBOAT CRUISE AND TOUR ABOARD AMAWATERWAYS “AMACELLO”, GENEVA SWITZERLAND – NICE FRANCE – 11 DAYS AND 10 NIGHTS WITH 3 NT EXTENSION OPTION. A “5” STAR CRUISE...HOTELS...LAND TOURS SERVICE, GRATUITIES.... ACCOMODATIONS IN CRUISE FLYER. CURRENTLY “19” PEOPLE RESERVED SPACE. LIMITED STATEROOMS AVAILABLE. A RIVER CRUISE IS AN EXCELLENT WAY TO ENJOY SMALL INLAND AREAS LARGE OCEAN LINERS CAN NOT SAIL. RIVER CRUISING IS A TREAT WITH ONLY 75 STATEROOMS.

THE MMC “55th” CRUISE
CRUISING SAN JUAN, ST. MARTIN,
ST. THOMAS, DOMINICAN REP.
MARCH 9 – MARCH 16, 2024

SEVEN NIGHTS ABOARD CELEBRITY’S NEW “APEX” 5 STAR RATED SHIP. THE NEWEST SECOND SHIP IN CELEBRITY’S “EDGE” CLASS. IN ADDITION TO ALL THE AMENITIES MMC EXPERIENCED ON THE “EDGE”, MAGIC CARPET, BEAUTIFUL DESIGN, DÉCOR, INFINITE VERANDAH, BLU ROOM DINING EXCLUSIVE FOR (AQUA CLASS A2) THE NEW ICED MARTINI BAR, A CRAFTED SOCIAL BAR WHERE GUESTS CAN EXPERIENCE DRAFT BEERS FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD. THIS SHIP OFFERS FINEST ACCOMODATIONS, “4” CARIBBEAN PORTS OF CALL, EXCLUSIVE OF MEXICO PORTS IN VIEW OF COUNTRIES PRESENT PROBLEMS.

CRUISE “7” NIGHTS ABOARD NEW APEX, REQUIRING NO AIR, ONLY ENJOY A MMC ROUND TRIP MARCO COACH TO SHIPS FT. LAUDERDALE, FL, PORT. THIS MMC CRUISE PACKAGE, INCLUDES ROUND TRIP COACH FROM MARCO ISLAND TO SHIPS FT. LAUDERDALE, FL. PORT., “7” NIGHTS ABOARD CELEBRITY’S LUXURIOUS NEW SHIP, “THE APEX”, CLUB’S STATEROOMS HAVE THE INFINITY BALCONY, “3” FREE PERKS. 1-CLASSIC BEVERAGE PACKAGE. 2. GRATUITIES. 3. WI-FI, ALL TAXES, FEES, & PORT CHARGES. MMC HAS A SECURED EXCELLENT DISCOUNTS WITH OUR “GROUP RATE”. CURRENTLY “33” PEOPLE BOOKED. SAILING ABOARD A NEW CELEBRITY SHIP IS A WONDERFUL TREAT.

**THE MMC “56TH CRUISE
ALASKA “8” NIGHT PRE-HOTEL/
CRUISE ABOARD CELEBRITY
“SUMMIT” WITH “6” NIGHT PRE-
LAND OPTION.
MAY 25 – JUNE 7, 2024**

“8” PORTS OF CALL...ANCHORAGE,
TALKEETNA, DENALI, SEWARD,
JUNEAU, SKAGWAY, ICY STRAIT,
KETCHIKAN, VANCOUVER, BRITISH
COLUMBIA.

PACKAGE INCLUDES: AIR (\$1200
ALLOWANCE) 1 NIGHT PRE-HOTEL
(EMBASSY SUITES ANCHORAGE), 7
NIGHT CRUISE, TAXES, PORT
CHARGES, TRANSFERS, UNLIMITED
DRINK PACKAGE, GRATUITIES, WIFI.
AQUA CLASS PASSENGERS DINE IN
THE SHIP’S BLU DINING ROOM,
AVAILABLE EXCLUSIVELY TO AQUA
CLASS GUESTS. BLU REQUIRES NO
ADVANCE RESERVATIONS FOR
BREAKFAST OR DINNER.

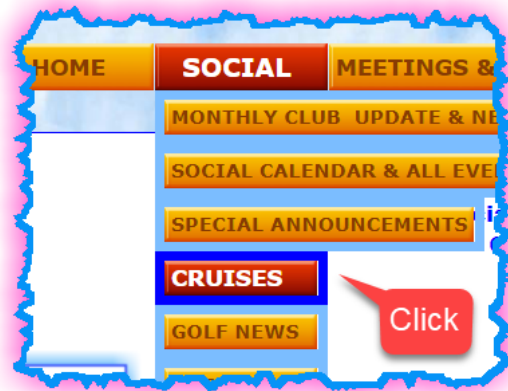
**OPTIONAL “6” NIGHT PRE LAND
TOUR:** ARRIVE IN ANCHORAGE WITH
AN OVERNIGHT AT ANCHORAGE
MARRIOTT. LATER, EMBARK ON A
LUXURIOUS RIDE ABOARD THE
WILDERNESS EXPRESS GLASS-
DOMED RAILCAR FOR A SCENIC RIDE
TO ONE OF THE MOST PICTURESQUE
TOWNS IN ALASKA – TALKEETNA;
YOURS TO EXPLORE. FROM THERE
YOU WILL BOARD YOUR DELUXE
MOTOR COACH FOR THE RIDE TO
DENALI AND YOURS TO DISCOVER. 2
NIGHT STAY AT DENALI PARK
VILLAGE. THEN EMBARK ON A
SCENIC RIDE ABOARD A DELUXE
MOTOR COACH TO ANCHORAGE,
OVERNIGHT AT HOTEL ALYESKA
(GIRDWOOD) AND THEN ON TO
SEWARD WHERE YOU JOIN THE

CELEBRITY SUMMIT FOR YOUR 7
NIGHT CRUISE TO VANCOUVER.

**GO TO THE CLUBS WEBSITE FOR
MORE INFORMATION ON EACH
CRUISE. USE THE DROPDOWN
MENU (See Image Below) ON ANY
WEBPAGE TO GO TO THE CRUISE
WEBPAGE FOR THE LATEST FLYER,
TRAVELEX INSURANCE, COVID
UPDATE AND MUCH MORE.**

...OR FOLLOW THIS LINK:

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



Contact Bill Rogers at:

239-259-8945

973-978-8884

September 2023

The Marco Men's Club

Speakers Calendar

John DeMado, Program Director

September 13, 2023

Kevin Rambosk

Collier County Sheriff

'STATE OF THE COUNTY'

I am pleased to report that Collier County Sheriff, Kevin Rambosk, will be addressing the Marco Men's Club membership on Wednesday, September 13, 2023.

Sheriff Rambosk comes to us with considerable experience in Florida public service, ranging from his first appointment as a Naples, FL police officer in 1978, to Naples, FL City Manager in 1999, to his present position as 'top cop' in Collier County since 2009.

The Sheriff will inform us, in detail, regarding the realities of combatting crime in our county. He has the inside information, the statistics and the experience. Please be certain to attend this important opportunity... **AND BE SURE TO BRING YOUR QUESTIONS!**

October 11, 2023

Tim Rose

Board Chairman

Marco Dementia Respite

Marco Dementia Respite (MDR): For Marco, By Marco.

Tim Rose is the Board Chairman of Marco Dementia Respite (MDR). He and his wife, Denise, have been year-round residents on Marco for 16 years. Early in 2022, they formed a broad-based coalition that led to the creation of MDR, a new local charity *for Marco area residents* with early-stage Alzheimer's/Dementia and their caregivers... Services provided *by Marco area residents*.

Marco Dementia Respite (MDR) exists to provide a safe oasis for Marco-area residents with early-stage Alzheimer's/Dementia at no cost to the participant. They respond as well to a critical need for caregiver respite on Marco and formulating a more unified approach to senior care island wide. A ministry of Wesley United Methodist Church in partnership with the Marco-area community, MDR is held on Mondays from 10:30 AM until 2:30 PM at Wesley United Methodist Church (Fellowship Hall). They will be adding a second day of programming (Fridays) in early 2023.

Tim will join us on October 11, 2023 to update MDR's progress to date... But

even more important, he will provide us with their longer-term vision for senior care on Marco Island. **Please circle this date on your calendar!**

November 8, 2023
Dianna Dohm
Executive Director
Marco Island Chamber of Commerce

I am very pleased to have Ms. Dianna Dohm, Executive Director of the Marco Island Chamber of Commerce, address the MMC membership on this date regarding an exciting new initiative... Marco Island residents are soon to be the benefactors of an expanded urgent care center!

The current NCH Healthcare System's Urgent Care Center will be replaced, and longtime supporters are helping with the expense, which includes a private matching grant of five million dollars toward construction. The project cost of nearly \$18 million involves a two-story building at NCH's Marco campus at 40 South Heathwood Drive. The new center will encompass 24,000 square feet, with the second floor of 12,000 square feet left as a shell for future use.

The current center is more than 30 years old and new construction is needed in order to keep pace with our community's growth. With a population of 18,000 on Marco, the urgent care center is currently open daily and sees 45 patients a day during season. The number drops to 25 patients in the slower summer months.

Please be certain to attend this most important and informative presentation.

December 13, 2023
Dr. Leslie Ricciardelli
Collier County Superintendent
of Schools

THE STATE OF EDUCATION IN COLLIER COUNTY

It is my distinct honor to present Dr. Leslie C. Ricciardelli to the MMC membership. Dr. Ricciardelli is the 20th superintendent of the *A-rated* Collier County Public School District (CCPS), which, in 2023, celebrates 100 years of excellence in education. CCPS is responsible for educating approximately 50,000 students and employing slightly under 7,000 full- and part-time employees. Dr. Ricciardelli's experiences and expertise within the district and the community have provided her with an in-depth understanding of the expectations and values the people of Collier County have of our public education system.

Earlier in her career, Dr. Ricciardelli worked in three other Florida counties — Broward, Orange, and Seminole — where she served as a teacher for students with disabilities and returned to Collier County to work as an inclusion teacher. Dr. Ricciardelli has served in a variety of capacities: exceptional student education assistant, teacher, assistant principal, principal, and various district leadership roles where she led in a variety of positions, including Executive Director for Secondary Programs, School Leadership and Performance Officer, and Deputy Superintendent. **Please come share the pride for what we do for students in Collier County!**

**Please contact your Program
Director, John DeMado, with any
speaker recommendations or topics
that you would like to have presented
at the monthly meeting.**

John DeMado

September 2023

Golf News



John Laird, Golf Chairman

Cell: 920-366-4652

Email: jglaird64@gmail.com

September Golf News

We will be at Lely on Most Mondays this summer playing the Mustang & Flamingo courses. The Rate is \$70.09 plus tax which works out to an even \$75.00 per round. Lou Makris will continue to run the Friday group at the Glades and Royal Wood Country Clubs. Our monthly coordinators will book the traveling group at various nice courses around the area as our other Friday playing option.

Our fall scramble will be held on Monday, October 23rd, at the Glades Country Club in Naples. Shotgun start at 8:30AM with lunch & prizes immediately after. Lou Makris will be e-mailing out the flyer and sign-up sheet. Information can also be found on the MMC website.

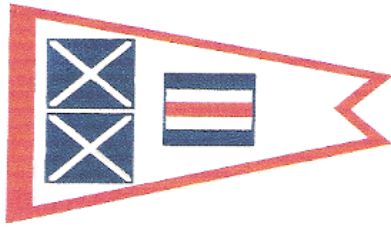
Hibiscus has been shut down since April 1st for a major renovation including a new irrigation system as well as other course additions/modifications. Our hope is they will be open for play on November 1st. A progress update will be e-mailed to all golf members in the near future.

MMC GOLF COORDINATORS FALL 2023

September	Monday	Tom McCullough	tamccullough@comcast.net	570-690-4055
September	Friday	Tony Tomassone	tonytom_52@msn.com	610-937-2324
October	Monday	Bob Phelan	bobjphelan1@gmail.com	239-272-4820
October	Friday	Rick Babuka	rickbabcon@gmail.com	859-358-8618
November	Monday	Ken Burnham	burnham@umass.edu	413-531-7799
November	Friday	Lou Makris	loumak42@aol.com	781-258-0456
December	Monday	OPEN		

Thank you to all of the coordinators! Our group would not function without you.

John Laird



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.

September 2023

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Dave Tobiasz
President Emeritus: Warren Uhl
Senior Vice President: Mike Ballenger
Vice President: Steve Furlong
Vice President: Tom Kramer
Vice President: Rob Reiley
Vice President: Arne Sandberg
Secretary: Jerry Defibaugh
Treasurer: Rudi Landwaard

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Hospitality: Don Koppel
Public Relations: Dave Walsh
Theater Chair: Open
Golf Chair: John Laird
Sports Chair: Jack Martin
Bocce Coordinator: Rick Johnson
Program Director: John DeMado
Cruise Chair: Bill Rogers
Sergeant-At-Arms: Mike Levine
Sickness/Bereavement Chair: George Vitta
Newsletter Editor: Lou Makris
Membership Communications: Les Konkoly
Investment Discussion Club: Don Koppel
Computer/Technology Club: Steve Furlong
Travel Discussion Group: Joe Covelli
MMC Travel Club: Tim Clune
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	2002: Al Bozzo	2003: Ken Molander
2004: Bob Gaffney	2005: Wayne Boose	2006: Tom Traeger*	2007: Joe Cassidy*
2008: Fred Stavola	2009: Joe Varano	2010: Bill Sullivan	2011: Sam Miloro
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	2022: Warren Uhl	