

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE / NEWSLETTER FOR DECEMBER 2023 – 45th ANNIVERSARY

Merry Christmas and Happy, Healthy New Year to you and your families!

Dear Brother Member:

Members **ONLY** Christmas Party will be held on Dec. 13 in the Lower Church Hall. Tickets are available at meetings, cribbage, bowling alleys at \$10 each. NO TICKETS SOLD AT THE DOOR! A fabulous luncheon buffet including your favorite beverage is on the menu. Tickets have the complete menu printed. Lunch was served at noon. Doors open at 10 am. Meal served at noon. We have sold over 100 tickets so if you have not purchased one, last chance to come down and celebrate Christmas with your fellow brothers.

REGULAR MEETINGS: are held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month at 9:30am. No meeting on Dec. 27. Next meeting Jan. 10, 2024.

SCHOLARSHIPS: Thanks to the members/families who made donations to the Club. We will be offering two - \$1000 scholarships and one \$500 scholarship in 2024, The Lee Gera Memorial Scholarship for \$1000, the Singing Grandpops Scholarship for \$1000 and the Bill Hayward Memorial Scholarship for \$500. A Scholarship Committee has been formed: John Barry, Chairman; Bill Young, Assistant; Bill Landry, Assistant. Applications are now available at General Meetings and on our website: rmcarlington.org.

PROGRAMS/GUEST SPEAKERS: Featured guest speakers include: **NO MEETINGS IN DEC.**

Date	Name	Topic of for discussion.
01/10/24	Herb Crehan	To be determined.
01/24/24	Mark Thompson	To be determined.
02/14/24	Jim Ramsey	Dong Ha Bridge.

A.E.D. TRAINING: The Arlington Fire Dept. will provide training on our AED machines. We need at least 10 members to sign up. The signup sheet is available at the meeting or contact Peter Galluzzo.

SICK AND VISITATION: Tony Dello Russo has returned to his job of contacting RMCA members who are ill or confined and reporting the information to the membership. He will need a list of those members. If anyone is aware of such a member, please let Tony know by emailing the member's name and nature of his illness or confinement. Email the information to deloru0@aol.com Helpful, but not required, is the address of the members' current location. You will pleasantly be surprised at how they appreciate your thoughtfulness in calling.

Membership cares. Contact Tony Dello Russo at: 781-572-1987. Please provide their name, phone number and the nature of the member's condition. (Address would help)

SICK & VISITATION – November 21, 2023

Joe Battinellit; 31 Alfred Rd; Arlington, MA 02474; (781) 646-9227

Joe, at 92 years, had a heart valve replacement about two weeks ago. He had done macroscopically through the veins in his leg. He was pleased that it went well and worked. The only problem he had was that he had to lie completely still for 3 hours post-surgery to prevent any bleeding issues. He was home in less than three days. However, his activities are seriously limited. He did manage to go to the bowling alley with his league friends. He resisted the urge to bowl but kept score. Joe hopes to be at our next meeting. He plans to spend Thanksgiving at his nephew's house.

John Pellegrino; Blair House; 10 Elin Terrace; Tewksbury, MA 01876; (781) 698-1385

John is "hanging in there". He uses a wheelchair to get around although he has little or no desire to leave his room. He does miss being home. His son visits about three times a week to play cribbage. He had some good news; one of his granddaughters has just accepted a job with Encore and he was happy with all the benefits that go along with working at a casino. John is spending Thanksgiving with his daughter and anticipates seeing some of his grandchildren. John would really appreciate it if his poker buddies would give him a call.

Alex Armenio; Sunrise Assisted Living; 1395 Mass. Ave; Arlington, MA 02476; (781) 646-4769

I called Alex yesterday. The flu is rampant at Sunrise, so he and Maria spend most of their time in the apartment. Alex proudly told me that he and the chef are on great terms. As a matter of fact, the chef often asks what he should cook for dinner. As those of you who know Alex of course its Italian food. His pain is always present, and he is unhappy taking so much medication. He uses a cane. Maria and Alex are both in their mid-nineties. He was planning to spend Thanksgiving with his son but death in the family canceled that. He is disappointed not to hear from his friends. So, if you are so moved, please contact him or send him a card.

Shaun O'Halloran; 7 Eliot Road; Arlington, MA 02474; (781) 646-9016

Shaun fell again and required 911 help to get to his feet. He is very discouraged since he cannot get out on his own. His legs are next to "useless", so he has started exercising to strengthen them. He uses a walker all the time... He is spending Thanksgiving with his daughter. He hopes to get to the club and bring his loud hearty Irish laugh. So please help him laugh again by giving him a call.

Bob Carsasitti; 187 Scituate Street; Arlington, MA 02476; (781) 648-5284

I called Bob and Barbara yesterday. They are both "hanging in there." A recent ultrasound showed that he had a slight blockage in one of his carotid arteries. The results were negative so with minor medication he can deal with it. Bob's shortness of breath has improved. He has difficulty walking. He has installed a "Stair Master" in the back entrance to assist him. He manages to drive in local conditions. Both he and Barbara are part of the doctor's visits club. Their son Bob is coming to spend Thanksgiving with them. He wants to say hello to all the members whose friendship he enjoyed. If you know Bob, give him a call, and say hello.

Lou Pignatone; 9 Jonathon Road; Burlington, MA 01833; (781) 272-1555

I called Lou and left a message. I talked to Lou last week. He still had some minor issues with his heart and was cardiologist's decision regarding implanting a defibrillator. He was drinking about 64 ounces of water each day and offsetting this with diuretics. He has gained some strength. He uses a walker outside. He was 98 pounds then but has to limit his weight gain to 3 pounds. He is battling fluid problems and edema. All of us remember Louie as a serious bowler, a high school soccer referee and a high school soft ball umpire. So, let's hope that he recovers and gets back out to the playing field. Cheer him on with a telephone call or a card.

Chateau Charity Fundraiser: The Winter Fundraiser will be held January 25, 2024, at the Chateau Restaurant on School St. Waltham. Proceeds to fund Scholarships and Charities.

Bowling: Bowling for the Fall season has begun in the interim at the Wakefield Bowling alleys on Water Street on Thursday mornings. Bowling at the Woburn Bowl drome is on hold until further notice. When bowling resumes it will be on Friday mornings. New bowlers are more than welcome to join even as a substitute and have some fun and meet with your brother members. The league is a fully handicapped league, so it does not matter what your average is. Bowling dues are tentatively \$18 per week. The new Bowling Chairman is Tony Masci with Felix Costanza, Assistant, and John Vieira handling the Treasury functions.

Golf: Thanks to Tony Dello Russo, Mike Comer, and the Venerable Joe Puccio for running the program. Golf at the Reedy Meadows Golf Course in Lynnfield. Golf can be played until snow covers the course.

Cribbage: The tournament is underway. Monday mornings at 9:30 in lower Church Hall. Brush up your skills by coming down and playing. Dues are \$8.00 per week. Note that women are allowed to play. They do not have to be related to Club members. Great prizes to all that participate. Thanks to John Boudreau as Chairman and Bill Young as Assistant. Contact John Boudreau to join and play.

Whist Players Wanted: Bob Coffey would like to begin a Whist Card Game. If interested in playing whist, please call Bob at 781-933-7930. Games would be held in the Hall area.

The Singing Grandpops: are still in need of singers (you really do not need singing ability) to join the Singing Grandpops. Contact Ray Carmichael, Jim Whalen, or Tom Woodbury. The Grandpops are the ambassadors of the Club, bringing joy and happiness wherever they go. You will enjoy this special activity. Grandpop's Schedule is as follows for December:

<u>DATE:</u>	<u>LOCATION:</u>	<u>SHOW TIME:</u>
Saturday 12/9	St Raphael Church	Mass @ 4:00 pm, Dinner, Then the Show.
Monday 12/11	Neville Place	Show @ 2:00 pm.
Friday 12/15	Belmont C.O.A.	Show @ 2:00 pm.
Thursday 12/21	Sancta Maria	Show @ 2:00 pm.

Planned Trips: We need a chairman to lead the trip committee group for 2023-2024. Please contact Peter Galluzzo if you are interested in leading this Club activity. A list of the trips are as follows:

RMCA CONSOLIDATED TRIPS FOR 2023 AS OF 12/1/2023:

DATE	DESCRIPTION	VENDOR	COST
Dec. 7, 2023,	COUNTRY MUSIC CHRISTMAS /LUNCH	via BEST TIMES	\$130.00
Dec. 14, 2023,	SALEM CROSS + MGM + BRIGHT LIGHTS	via FOXY	\$120.00

Flyers and info are on our website: rmcarlington.org. Click on the Trips icon.

If you have a trip in mind, please email me at pjgtaxes@yahoo.com

DUES ARE DUE!!: Again, one of our goals is to increase our membership. 350 renewal letters were sent out. Dues remain at \$35. 1000 RMCA brochures will be distributed to members to reach out to your friends, relatives, neighbors etc. If each of you brings in one new member, we can double our membership. Our membership has been increasing during the past few months. As a result of the pandemic, many workers have decided to retire, and they are looking for something to do. If you know one, then sign them up as a new member and if they do not like what we offer then they do not have to pay or if they do pay their dues, they can ask for a refund. Attached to this newsletter and on our website is a membership card, so cut it out and give it to your neighbor, relative, friend and meet and make new friends. Note that they do not have to be retired or from Arlington. Also, note that the membership application now contains a contact name and phone number in case of an emergency. The dues received will be for 2024. New membership cards will be issued in January regular meeting,

Miscellaneous: Get involved! You only get out of it what you put into it. Do nothing, get nothing.

REMINDER: When entering the hall between 9 -9:30, please use the rear entrance and not the side entrance to the Church, as there is a daily Mass going on.

ESTATE PLANNING: Please note that the Club is a 501(C)(3) charitable tax-exempt organization so any donations to the Club are tax deductible on your tax return. The exemption certificate is posted on our website. New from the IRS is that you can take a distribution from your IRA as part of your Minimum Required Distribution and donate it to the Club and it will NOT be included in your taxable income and get lifetime income from the annuity payments. Please think about this option in your estate planning. Another suggestion is a donor advised fund where contributions are fully deductible and are distributed to your favorite charities including RMCA.

See you soon at a meeting!

Peter Galluzzo, RMCA President

RMCA OFFICERS 2022 - 2024

OFFICER/COMM.	CURRENT HOLDER	PHONE
PRESIDENT	PETER GALLUZZO	781-646-7758
VICE PRESIDENT	PHIL STE. MARIE	781-894-6157
TREASURER	JOHN VIEIRA	781-249-0769
SECRETARY	TOM CORDIMA	781-325-3255
MEMBERSHIP	JOE DIBACCO	978-486-4395
ASST. TREASURER	JOHN BOUDREAU	781-858-3159
ASST. SECRETARY	JIM WHALEN	781-365-1784
ASST. MEMBERSHIP	CONNIE MURPHY	781-396-1979

NOTE: Elections will be held on April 10, 2024. Nominations for officers will be held on March 13 and March 27, 2024, at the general meeting.

RMCA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

January 1, 2024, thru December 31, 2024, DUES \$35.00 Renewal_____

Information_____

New _____

Name: _____ MI _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Emergency Contact: _____ Phone _____

Cash Amount _____ Check #. _____ \$ _____

Please mail application along with payment made to: RMCA

Mail to: John Vieira, RMCA, P.O. Box 195, Arlington, MA 02476-0002