

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

The Marco Men's Club

September 2024

Newsletter

Established 1992
A non-profit organization

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Greetings!

It's September already; where did the summer go? The kids, or should I say grandkids, are headed back to school, to the smiles of their parents. I'm already hearing from members who are beginning to think about heading back to our island. In the next few months as members return and our events start to kick into full gear, we will

be looking for hosts to volunteer to help at different events. Remember, all hosts are comped up to \$100, so if the event costs \$50 per person and you bring your wife, significant other or friend, the event is paid for. Now, what do I have to do, you ask! A host is responsible for collecting the checks and keeping a spreadsheet that you download from our web site. A VP will be assigned to you and will help you with any questions or issues. On the day of the event you are responsible for greeting and handing out name tags, food choices etc. The smaller events are pretty straight forward; however, the larger events do take a little more planning and effort. Remember the VP is there to help. As we begin to get into the club's busy season, I hope you'll consider helping, especially new members as this is a great way to meet other members and get more involved in the club.

August was busy with the men's only lunch at KJ's Asian Bistro. We had 10 join us for great food and a chance to shoot the breeze with friends.



We also had a great couples night dinner at the new Mexican restaurant La Mesa. Twenty-one attended and an enjoyable time was had by all.

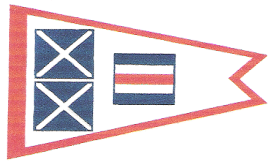
La Mesa Restaurant



September's Men's Only Lunch will be at Joey D's after the general meeting. The same plan is in effect...a show of hands at the meeting will get you a seat. If you can't make the meeting but still wish to join the group for lunch, just contact the person in question on the flyer. Our speaker will be VP **Mark Haynes** who will talk about AI and what we should know. Our couples date night will be at Andre's Steak House. See the flyer on the web site. Finally, the theater groupies are going to the play "Chicago" at the Broadway Palm in Ft Myers.

On this day in history: (9/11) I believe we all remember where we were when the attack came. The world changed that fateful day!

Mike Ballenger



September 2024

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Club News

COMPUTER/TECHNOLOGY CLUB



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! In past meetings we spoke about Chat GPT and AI tools; we will continue that discussion. Bring your topics to discuss! Spouses and significant others are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Club meetings on hiatus until fall.

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

Or stevenrichardfurlong@gmail.com.

INVESTMENT DISCUSSION CLUB

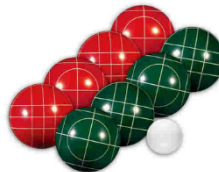


This is a gathering where opinions are valued, facts are appreciated and experience is not

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 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.

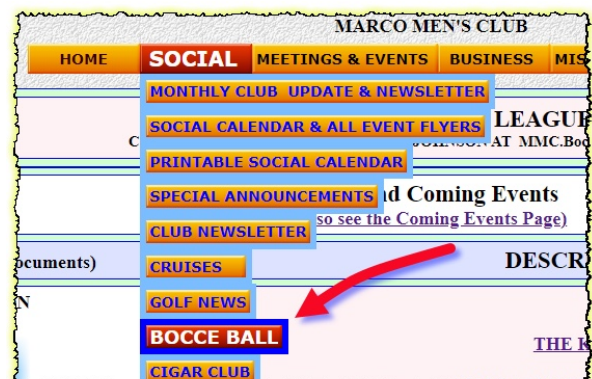
BOCCE BALL



The 2024 MMC Bocce league completed another successful season with 23 teams participating. Team Rhoads won the Tuesday league and Team Davis

won the Thursday league. Both regular season winners were upset in the playoffs. Tuesday Playoffs were won by team Dave and Thursday Playoffs were won by team Melka. Team Dave went on to win Overall Playoff Championship. An awards luncheon was held Thursday April 4th with almost forty attending.

You can always find the latest Bocce information from any page in the website by following the dropdown menu link shown in the image below.



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

TRAVEL DISCUSSION GROUP



Serves as a resource in support of upcoming Marco Men's Club Cruises and Tours – both Domestically and Internationally. Each

month we will focus on a different aspect of travel including the sharing of travel planning tips, exploring future travel opportunities, as well as providing feedback on recently completed trips. The first scheduled meeting since summer was held on September 3rd, we had 14 people in attendance. The purpose of the meeting was to provide travel information for those that would be going on the British Isles cruise.

Rudy Landwaard came and shared his knowledge of Oceana and the British Isles. He did a great job, providing insight that will be valuable.

Contact **Bruce Dahlquist** 847-815-9474 or dahlquistbruce@gmail.com

SPORTS UPDATE

Following a very successful sports season; plans are in the works for the upcoming season.

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 LOU MAKRIS.**

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.

MMC TRAVEL CLUB

Saint Augustine Christmas Trip



December 8 to December 10

Trip includes round trip coach from Marco Island to St Augustine.

Two nights Holiday Inn Express, Vilano Beach.

Two breakfasts and one dinner from Old City House including taxes and gratuities.

Package Includes: Castillo de San Marcos Fort Tour.

Flagler Memorial Presbyterian Church. Fountains of Youth Archeological Park. Lightener Museum.

Nights of Lights Riding Tour.

Lighthouse and Maritime Museum.

Villa Zorayda.

Ximenez Patio House.

TRIP SOLD OUT

Contact **Jerry Poulin** 508-868-1716 or gpsp@aol.com to sign up.

SICKNESS AND BEREAVEMENT



Please contact **George Vitta** at 586-942-8056 or golflover3@yahoo.com regarding information of illness or death of members, their spouse, and immediate family. George will notify the MMC board.

I am saddened to report the passing of two of our club members.

John Sieff passed on Sunday, Aug 11, 2024. He was 96 years old.

Please keep John's family and his dear companion Nancy Healy in your prayers.

A memorial service will be held at United Church of Marco Island later this year.

Expressions of sympathy may be sent

to: John Sieff, C/O
The Sieff Family
534 La Peninsula Blvd.
Naples, FL 3411

Nancy Healy
330 Kon Tiki Drive, #F7
Naples, FL 34113

Marvin Klein, passed on August 24, 2024 in Saddle River, New Jersey. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his loving wife Natalie Tender and the Klein family.

CRUISES



THE MMC “57TH” CRUISE
CRUISING BRITISH ISLE PASSAGE
VISITING AMSTERDAM AND “10”
PORTS OF CALL
OCTOBER 22 – NOVEMBER 3, 2024

“10” PORTS OF CALL... AMSTERDAM,
NETHERLANDS...EDINBURGH,
SCOTLAND...KIRKWALL,
SCOTLAND...ULLAPOOL,
SCOTLAND...BELFAST, NORTHERN
IRELAND...HOLYHEAD,
WALES...CORNWALL,
ENGLAND...PORTSMOUTH,
ENGLAND...HON FLEUR (PARIS)
FRANCE...BRUGES, BELGIUM.
CRUISE PACKAGE INCLUDES: 11NTS
ABOARD OCEANIA’S “5.5” STAR SHIP
“SIRENA”, TAXES, PORT CHARGES,
GRATUITIES, TRANSFERS, \$1000 AIR
ALLOWANCE, \$400 PER PERSON
EXCURSION CREDIT, UNLIMITED
“HOUSE SELECT” BEVERAGE
PACKAGE WHICH INCLUDES
UNLIMITED CHAMPAGNE, WINE AND
BEER DURING LUNCH AND DINNER
AT DINING VENUES OR IN ROOM***,
AND SPECIALTY DINING.

THE MMC “58TH” CRUISE
FAR EAST CRUISE, INCLUDES
SINGAPORE, THAILAND, VIETNAM
AND CHINA
FEBRUARY 27, 2025 – MARCH 15, 2025

16+ NIGHTS – 13 NIGHTS CRUISING
FAR EAST ON CELEBRITY’S “5.5”
STAR SHIP “SOLSTICE”.

CRUISE INCLUDES 2 NIGHTS PRE
STAY IN SINGAPORE AND AN
OPTIONAL 2 NIGHT STAY IN HONG
KONG.

FOR CRUISE DETAILS, FORMS AND
INFORMATION, PLEASE ACCESS MMC
WEBSITE.

THE MMC “59TH” CRUISE
COLUMBIA AND SNAKE RIVER
CRUISE
LEWIS AND CLARK EXPEDITION
MAY 27, 2025 – JUNE 4, 2025

9 DAYS, 1 NIGHT PRE-HOTEL, 7 NIGHT
CRUISE, SAILING ABOARD
AMERICAN CRUISE LINES “5” STAR
RIVERBOAT “SONG”

FOR CRUISE ITINERARY, PLEASE
ACCESS **CRUISE INFORMATION** ON
CLUB WEBSITE.

THE MMC “60th” CRUISE
AMAZON RIVER CRUISE
OCTOBER 10, 2025-OCTOBER 19, 2025

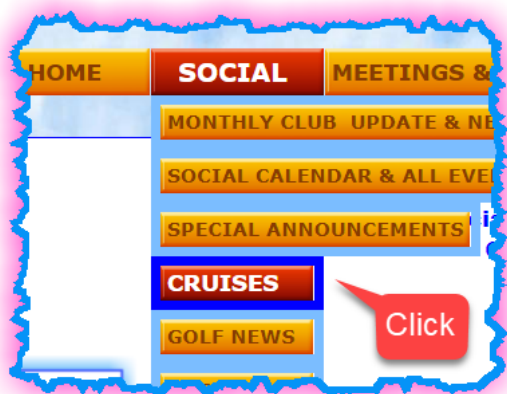
9 NIGHTS CRUISING AMAZON RIVER
ON SEABOURNS “6” STAR ULTRA
LUXURY ALL SUITE SHIP “VENTURE”.
1 NIGHT PRE-STAY.

AMAZON CRUISING WITH AN
EXPEDITIONARY TEAM.

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

marcomensclubcruises@gmail.com

September 2024

The Marco Men's Club

Speakers Calendar

Program Director "OPEN"

September 11, 2024

Mark Haynes

MMC VP

Mark Haynes will be speaking on how AI is going to affect all of us.

October 9, 2024

Celebrity Cruises Spokesperson

November 13, 2024

**Naturalist, Virginia Palmer-Skok,
Fakahatchee Strand Preserve State
Park**

Naturalist Virginia Palmer-Skok is a public speaker and published author of several books and many articles that highlight her passion for history and the wonders of nature that fascinate her. One of her great loves is the Everglades where she conducts conservation research on wildlife and endangered plants. In addition to her writing and photography she loves to share her passion with others by providing swamp walks in hopes to entice them to enjoy this paradise and to protect it. She serves as the President of the Friends of Fakahatchee, a not for profit dedicated

to the financial and volunteer support to preserve the unique ecology and cultural heritage of Fakahatchee Strand Preserve State Park and to educate the public about its importance.

Right in Marco Island's backyard is the magical Fakahatchee Strand Preserve State Park. Come hear a fellow Marco Islander talk about the largest Florida State Park and its unique history. It is here where visitors get the chance to see megafauna including panthers, bears and more. The famous Fakahatchee intrigues

all that visit whether it is for hiking, birding, photography, animal and butterfly watching, biking, or even getting your feet wet on a swamp walk. Written about in the 1989 bestseller The Orchid Thief, the Preserve is known as the Orchid Capital of North America. There is a reason why visitors often get the "Fak A Habit" and return many times.

The Position of Program Director is vacant. Anyone interested and wishing to learn more about the duties of Director, please contact any board member or club officer.

September 2024

Golf News



John Laird, Golf Chairman

Cell: 920-366-4652

Email: jglaird64@gmail.com

September Golf News

Results of Spring Scramble held Monday, April 29th at The Glades CC in Naples. A great turnout with 52 golfers competing in the event. Congratulations to all the winners!

Scramble Team Results:

1. Ed Gerri, Mark Prather, Dennis Rosene, Bob VanderSelt: -11
2. Andy Hayward, Jeff Kazcka, Garland Kight, Harry Weathers: -8
3. Vito Iacovazzi, Tracy Juels, Reggie Gabriel, Bob Bergen: -7

On Course Prizes:

Longest Putt – Ron Bales

Long Drive – Vito Iacovazzi

Closest to the Pin-

Hole 2- Jeff Kazcka, 6 feet 3 inches

Hole 8 – Chris Hansen, 11 feet, 1 inch

Hole 10 - TK Rao, 15 feet

Hole 14 – Henry Olivera, 10 feet, one inch

Holes 16 – Henry Olivera, 5 feet, seven inches

MMC GOLF COORDINATORS FALL 2024

September	Monday	Tom McCullough	tamccullough@comcast.net	570-690-4055
September	Friday	John Laird	jglaird64@gmail.com	920-366-4652
October	Monday	Bob Phelan	bobjphelan1@gmail.com	239-272-4820
October	Friday	Henry Olivera	Enrique_olivera@comcast.net	305-742-8728
		Bob Winterhalter	robertswinterhalter@gmail.com	614-264-0021
November	Monday	Ken Burnham	burnham@umass.edu	413-531-7799
November	Friday	Lou Makris	loumak42@aol.com	781-258-0456
December	Monday	George Vitta	golflover3@yahoo.com	586-942-8056
December	Friday	Lou Makris	loumak42@aol.com	781-258-0456

John Laird

2024-2025 MMC THEATER SCHEDULE

Chicago Saturday, Sept 28 Broadway Palm (Ft. Myers) 11:30 lunch, 1:00 show

Set amidst the razzle-dazzle decadence of the 1920s, CHICAGO is the story of Roxie Hart, a housewife and nightclub dancer who murders her on-the-side lover. Desperate to avoid conviction, she dupes the public, the media and her rival cellmate, Velma Kelly, by hiring Chicago's slickest lawyer to transform her malicious crime into a barrage of sensational headlines. Hear favorites *All That Jazz*, *Cell Block Tango*, *Razzle Dazzle*, *Roxie* and more! Don't miss the longest-running American musical in Broadway history!

Rumors Sunday, Oct 13 Sugden (Naples) 2pm **SOLD OUT**

By Neil Simon—When the host of an evening dinner party goes missing, guests arrive, rumors run wild, and chaos ensues in this laugh-out-loud journey of mistaken identities, absurd misunderstandings, and tangled truths. *Rumors* will keep you laughing and guessing until the final curtain.

A Christmas Carol Saturday, Nov 30 Broadway Palm (Ft. Myers) 11:30 lunch, 1:00 show

Ebenezer Scrooge and his infamous “Bah, Humbug!” takes the stage in this beloved musical. Scrooge is visited by the ghosts of Christmas Past, Present and Future to show him cheerful memories from his past, cruel realities from his present and the very likely future. Scrooge learns important lessons about his impact on the lives of others, especially Bob Cratchit and his ailing son, Tiny Tim. This classic story captures the essence of the holidays and is perfect entertainment for the entire family.

Every Christmas Story Sunday, Dec 15 ACT(Marco) 3pm

Instead of performing Charles Dickens' beloved holiday classic for the umpteenth time, three actors decide to perform every Christmas story ever told — plus Christmas traditions from around the world, seasonal icons from ancient times to topical pop-culture, and every carol ever sung. A madcap romp through the holiday season!

The Play That Goes Wrong Sunday, Jan 19 Sugden (Naples) 2pm

From Mischief, Broadway masters of comedy, comes the smash hit farce. Welcome to the opening night of the Cornley University Drama Society's newest production, *The Murder at Haversham Manor*, where things quickly go from bad to utterly disastrous. This 1920s whodunit has everything you never wanted in a show—an unconscious leading lady, a corpse that can't play dead, and actors who trip over everything (including their lines). Nevertheless, the accident-prone thespians battle against all odds to make it through to their final curtain call, with hilarious consequences! Part Monty Python, part Sherlock Holmes, this Olivier Award-winning comedy is a global phenomenon guaranteed to leave you aching with laughter!

The Buddy Holly Story Saturday, Feb 8 Broadway Palm (Ft. Myers) 11:30 lunch/1:00 show

More than 50 years after “the music died”, the story of this true rock and roll icon comes to life in this musical journey through Buddy's impressive rise to fame. Buddy's original sound and dazzling talent are highlighted with live renditions of his greatest hits. You'll be dancing in the aisles and cheering for more when you hear over 20 Buddy Holly hits including *Maybe Baby*, *Every Day*, *Peggy Sue*, *That'll be the Day*, *Oh Boy*, *Rave On* plus Ritchie Valens' *La Bamba* and The Big Boppers' *Chantilly Lace*.

The Odd Couple Sunday, Feb 16 ACT(Marco) 3pm

This classic comedy opens in Oscar Madison's slovenly apartment as a group of his friends is deep into a game of poker. It is no wonder that Oscar is divorced if the condition of his apartment is any indication. The last of the group, Felix Ungar, arrives late and depressed: he and his wife have recently separated and he is trying to hold it together. Since Felix has nowhere to go, Oscar invites him to move in with him until he has a chance to figure things out.

At first, Felix's love of order is the perfect answer to Oscar's messy house, careless spending, and gambling problems. But soon his fussiness and hypochondriac ways prove extremely annoying to those around him, especially Oscar, who has to decide whether to let his friend stay and drive him crazy or throw him out to retain his sanity. Hilarity ensues as these two very polar-opposite friends have to figure out how to reconcile their differences.

Boeing, Boeing Sunday, March 16 ACT(Marco) 3pm

This 1960's French farce adapted for the English-speaking stage features self-styled Parisian lothario Bernard, who has Italian, German, and American fiancées, each a beautiful airline hostess with frequent "layovers." He keeps "one up, one down, and one pending" until unexpected schedule changes bring all three to Paris, and Bernard's apartment, at the same time.

Man of La Mancha Sunday, March 23 Sugden (Naples) 2pm

Man of La Mancha is one of the world's most popular musicals. Inspired by Miguel de Cervantes' 17th-century masterwork *Don Quixote* and set during the Spanish Inquisition, the original 1965 production won five Tony Awards, including Best Musical. Cervantes is in prison awaiting trial during the Spanish Inquisition. He and his fellow prisoners perform a play-within-a-play, telling the story of the elderly Alonso Quijana, who renames himself "Don Quixote" and goes on a quest to right all wrongs in the world. The rousing, Spanish-inflected score includes the classic numbers "The Impossible Dream," "I, Don Quixote," "Dulcinea," "I Really Like Him" and "Little Bird."

Four Old Broads Sunday, April 6 ACT(Marco) 3pm

Retired burlesque queen Beatrice Shelton desperately needs a vacation – and NOT another trip up to Helen, Georgia to see that "precious little German village for the umpteenth time." A Sassy Seniors Cruise through the Caribbean may be just the ticket if she can just convince her best friend, Eaddy Mae Clayton, to stop praying and go with her. Unfortunately, things have not been very pleasant at Magnolia Place Assisted Living since Nurse Pat Jones began working there. The newest resident, Imogene Fletcher, is suddenly losing her memory. Maude Jenkins is obsessed with her favorite soap opera and planning her own funeral. Sam Smith, retired Elvis impersonator, keeps trying to bed every woman in the building. A mystery unfolds with laughter as the gals try to outsmart the evil Nurse Pat Jones and figure out why so many residents have been moved to "the dark side," what exactly IS that mysterious pill, and what happened to Doctor Head? Hilarity ensues as Imogene goes undercover and Maude enters the Miss Magnolia Senior Citizen Pageant to throw Pat off their trail. If they can solve the mystery, they may make it to the cruise ship after all.

Les Miz Saturday, April 19 B.B. Mann (Ft. Myers) 2pm

This brilliant staging has taken the world by storm and has been hailed as "Les Mis for the 21st Century" (*Huffington Post*), "a reborn dream of a production" (*Daily Telegraph*) and "one of the greatest musicals ever created" (*Chicago Tribune*).

Set against the backdrop of 19th century France, *Les Misérables* tells an enthralling story of broken dreams and unrequited love, passion, sacrifice and redemption – a timeless testament to the survival of the human spirit. This epic and uplifting story has become one of the most celebrated musicals in theatrical history.

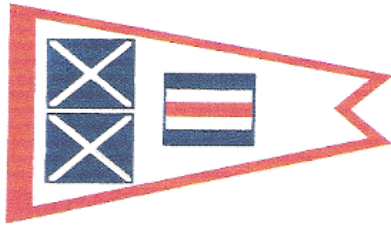
The magnificent score of *Les Misérables* includes the songs "I Dreamed a Dream," "On My Own," "Bring Him Home," "One Day More," "Master of the House" and many more. Seen by over 130 million people worldwide in 53 countries, 438 cities and 22 languages, *Les Misérables* is undisputedly one of the world's most popular musicals.

Waitress Saturday, April 26 Broadway Palm (Ft. Myers) 11:30 lunch, 1 pm show

The heartwarming musical of Jenna, a small-town waitress with a talent for baking pies. Trapped in a loveless marriage, Jenna finds solace and strength in her pies and dreams of a better life. When she unexpectedly becomes pregnant, Jenna embarks on a journey of self-discovery, supported by her quirky coworkers and a new doctor in town. With a stirring score by Sara Bareilles, *Waitress* serves up a story of resilience, friendship, and the pursuit of happiness.

Hallelujah Girls May 18, 2025 Sugden (Naples) 2pm

Hilarity abounds when the feisty females of Eden Falls, Georgia, decide to shake up their lives. The action in this rollicking Southern comedy takes place in SPA-DEE-DAH! the abandoned church-turned-day-spa where this group of friends gathers every Friday afternoon. After the loss of a dear friend, the women realize time is precious, and if they're going to change their lives and achieve their dreams, they have to get on it now! But Sugar Lee, their high-spirited, determined leader, has her hands full keeping the women motivated. Carlene's given up on romance, having buried three husbands. Nita's a nervous wreck from running interference between her problematic son and his probation officer. Mavis' marriage is so stagnant she's wondering how she can fake her own death to get out of it. And sweet, simple Crystal entertains them all, singing Christmas carols with her own hilarious lyrics. The comic tension mounts when a sexy ex-boyfriend shows up unexpectedly, a marriage proposal comes from an unlikely suitor and Sugar Lee's archrival vows she'll stop at nothing to steal the spa away from her. By the time the women rally together to overcome these obstacles and launch their new, improved lives, you've got a side-splitting, joyful comedy that will make you laugh out loud and shout "Hallelujah!"



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 2024

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Public Relations: Dave Walsh
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Bocce Coordinator: Rick Johnson
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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	2023: Dave Tobiasz