

ON THE

SHOULDERS



OF GIANTS

THE RETIRED FRIENDS

CLUB OF GREENDALE

It is with deepest sorrow and regret that we announce the passing of Tom Cullinane. A great friend, mentor and colleague to all who had the privilege of his company. His passing came just as this newsletter was going to press. We will publish a fitting tribute in remembrance of Tom in the November issue. Tom's final President's message, that he penned just a few weeks ago, reminds us all of how much he valued helping and bringing joy to others.



Greetings!

October already! Fall always brings big changes, namely beautiful foliage, chilly weather and, at least for me, football fever. Big changes are also in store for our club with the name change, the change in mission and surely an increase in membership. Here each of us has an opportunity to contribute to the excitement by bringing in a relative, friend and or neighbor to one of our membership meetings. There you can provide coffee, introduce them to the officers and trip leaders, and have them enjoy the day's program. I'm sure they will want to join us.

The highlight event of the holiday season is the Ladies Christmas Party. Dick Pinkes is again in charge of this wonderful event, which is partially subsidized by your club. Contact Dick soon, I expect tickets will sell quickly.

We have experienced problems with our web site, it was down for some time. **The good news is our new website is now up and running**, newly designed with improved content. Tim Brady with his granddaughter's help has been overseeing the development of new website. We are so thankful to the Brady family and looking forward to using this great resource again.

I miss being with you at our Wednesday meetings, be assured I am with you in spirit. However, due to a busy therapy schedule at UMMC, I will be unable to be there for some time. Be assured that I with your leadership team are all working together to provide great experiences for us all.

— TOM CULLINANE, Acting President

Check out this great line-up of Programs !

We invite our members, our female friends, spouses, and newsletter subscribers to be our guests at ALL of these great programs held at the Greendale YMCA. Come at 8AM for Coffee & Donuts. Meeting begins at 9AM with our Color Guard followed by the program. — If you are not a member yet, we invite you to come to one of our meetings as our guest to see what it's like.

Oct 4

Vintage Hits from the 50s & 60s

Ken Lelen will perform some of the great songs that were hits for the post-war sock-hop generation, a time when people dated, dined and danced to tunes they heard on their radios, juke boxes, and the movies. You'll be glad to hear them again.



Oct 11

We must never forget the Holocaust.

Morris "Moe" Bergman, born and raised in Worcester, is serving his fifth two-year term as a Councilor-at-Large for the city of Worcester. He is a child of Holocaust survivors and will speak to us about his parents' experiences and remind us of the history of the Holocaust and why it must never be forgotten.



Oct 18

What's new at the Airport?



Andrew Davis has been the Director of Worcester Regional Airport since 2008. He has a wealth of knowledge and experience about the airline industry. With



a twenty-six year career with American Airlines he has held management position through the country. Mr Davis will speak about initiatives of our airport, and the tremendous potential it has for both commercial and general aviation!

continued on page 2

More Upcoming Programs (continued)

Oct 25

How to Navigate the Medicare Maze!

Russ Swallow, long-time member of our club and local Medicare guru, speaks Medicare, so you won't have to. Whether you are . . . **About to be 65 . . . Over 65 Still Working . . . Or Already on Medicare . . .** Russ will explain everything you need to know and answer your questions . . . Before you join us on the 25th, please feel free to view the video preview of the presentation at the web site below.

TheMedicarAdvisors.com/workshops



Nov 1

The King of Rock 'n' Roll

Mike Slater is a top booked Elvis Impersonator and has been called upon to sing throughout New England! We will be returned to the days of our youth when the "King" changed the course of music history! You'll be sure to have a fabulous time listening to "Elvis," and singing along!



New Members

NAME	CITY	RETIRED FROM
Don Abraham	Hampton, NH	City of Worcester
James E. Brink	Auburn	Flexcon
David R. Flint	Worcester	USPS
Thomas C. Graves	Worcester	Electrician
Kevin M. Healy	Bradford	USPS
Peter W. Ivaska	Worcester	Child Sup. Enforcement
Joseph J. Kiwak	Dudley	Acutek Plastics
Alan J. Marcil	Enfield, CT	Hamilton Sunstrand
Anthony C. Metz	Worcester	Optician
Charles A. Neggers	Spencer	Carpenter
Raymond J. Thibeault	Shrewsbury	
Peter White	Worcester	Stop & Shop

Deceased Members

PAUL E. ANDERSON	HELGE NORDSTROM
JOHN BOWLER	WILLIAM G. O'ROURKE
FRANK J. CAPUTO	CARMINE J. PLUMLEY
THOMAS J. CULLINANE	JERRY W. POWELL
JOHN J. DILORIO, SR.	DAVID B. REPONEN
RICHARD L. FOSTER	RONALD VALINSKI
BRUCE KENNEN	

Chorus Group Activities Schedule

Our choral group will sing on meeting days, following practice. If you'd like to attend one or more of the following outside programs, call ahead to check space availability.

Oct 4	Wed	Jewish Health Ctr (508-798-8653 x2141)
	2:15 p.m.	629 Salisbury Street, Worcester
11	Wed	Briarwood The Elms (508-865-0027)
	1:30 p.m.	70 Briarwood Circle, Worcester
18	Wed	Briarwood The Birches (508-852-9007)
	2:00 p.m.	65 Briarwood Circle, Worcester
25	Wed	Oakdale Rehab (774-450-3617)
	1:30 p.m.	76 North Main Street, West Boylston
Nov 1	Wed	Holden Rehab (508-829-1119)
	2:00 p.m.	32 Mayo Drive, Holden

Is there room for more in the chorus?

Of course. Just speak up to a singer at a meeting or show-up at a Wednesday, 7:30 rehearsal. The more the merrier!

We Invite You to Attend the Following Informative Trip Presentation

Tuesday, Nov. 14, 2023 - 1:00 PM

at **Immaculate Conception Church**

353 Grove Street, Worcester (Parking in back)

(The parish hall is in the basement of the church.)

Savannah Southern Charm

WITH HISTORIC CHARLESTON

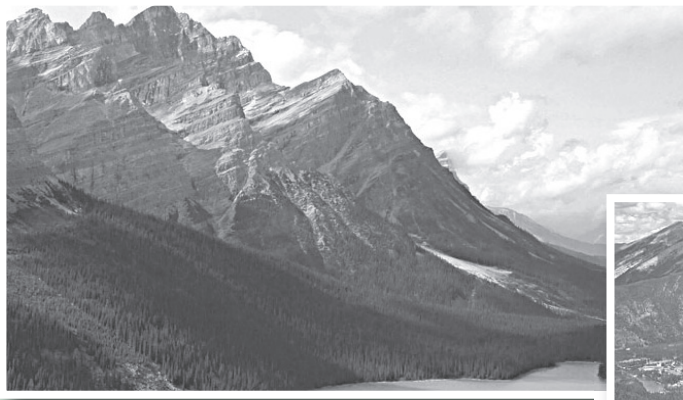
April 13-20, 2024 - \$2,745 per person

We will travel on a fully equipped motorcoach to Virginia for our first night in Fredericksburg, then arrive on day 2 at the Pearl of the South — Savannah. We will check into the Embassy Suites in the heart of downtown. Deluxe rooms, a full breakfast and a daily evening Manager's Cocktails are part of the hotel's many amenities. We will be led by a full-time Escort and have great guides to explain our adventure. With a variety of activities such as Boone Hall Plantation, Middleton Place and Fort Sumpter you can not go wrong. At the Savannah River Port we will board a Paddlewheel Steamer and enjoy a lovely lunch as we cruise upriver with stories of local characters. There are many more activities that we will list at the presentation. A farewell dinner cruise with entertainment on the 'Spirit of Carolina'. Your price includes great hotels, meals and admissions to attractions as well as gratuities. Be sure to tell your friends as this trip will fill up fast.



In order to prepare for this event, please contact George Barry at (508) 799-0739 or george.barry77@yahoo.com to let him know you plan to attend this presentation. We also welcome your friends that would like to attend.

CANADIAN ROCKIES TRIP 2023



On September 2nd to the 8th we traveled northwest to Calgary to explore the soaring majesty of the Canadian Rockies and the brilliance of Montana's Glacial National Park. Our journey had taken us through a landscape of tall peaks, turquoise lakes and ancient glaciers. Our favorites included a gondola/ski lift ride up the mountain, an ice walk on the Athabasca Glacier, learning about the buffalo hunt and a two day stay in Waterton Lakes National Park. We will not forget the sights and the friends we had made on this trip. Thanks to all who came with us.



— GEORGE & CINDI

Remembering Frank Caputo - - Always there to help!



On Saturday August 26, 2023 the Retired Friend's Club of Greendale lost another GIANT AMONG US. **Frank J. Caputo** 89. Passed away peacefully, after an illness. Frank was a proud employee of Norton Company of Worcester, spending 33 years working in various capacities. He left school at age 16 and helped out his family. When he was a kid, he played left tackle in football, center in basketball and catcher in baseball.

Frankie has always kept himself busy. Even after taking an early retirement from Norton at age 55, He took jobs with Big D and then Shaw's on Gold Star Boulevard. He joined the club in the 1960s.

Frankie called himself a **Spare Man**, very energetic doing the little things that could have gotten overlooked at the Retired Friend's Club of Greendale meetings. He was known for being the greeter at the front door of the Greendale YMCA before Wednesday meetings, passing the box for coffee donations and overseeing the kitchen upstairs. Frankie would also help all the club leaders in various capacities over the years. He was always willing to lend a spare hand.

Outside of the club, Frankie was an usher at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church in West Boylston. Frankie was a very religious man and should have a straight line to the pearly gates. Thank you, Frankie you will be missed.

—Submitted by Jim Hester III

Covid-19 Vaccination Policy

The requirement for providing your trip leader a completed copy of your Covid-19 Vaccination Card showing at least one booster shot was lifted for all trips **ONLY** within the United States, Canada and Mexico, ***originating after May 1, 2023.*** There are still many International destinations that have special entry requirements including, but not limited to, proof of vaccination and PCR testing. Your Trip Leader will provide you individual International country requirements on a trip by trip basis. Thank you for your cooperation in providing us your information during the past two years.

* Symbols, represent
NEW TRIPS this month.

Visit our website rfcg.info for detailed flyers on most of our trips.

Day & Overnight Trips For The Years 2023–2024

DAY TRIPS

DESTINATION	DATES	F/SALE	PRICE	LEADER(S)	TELEPHONE
N.H. Turkey Train	10/19/23	<i>Wait List</i>	\$109	Dick Pinkes	508-769-2913
Boston Holiday Stocking Stuffer Tour	12/1/23	<i>Wait List</i>	\$146	Dick Pinkes	508-769-2913
Ladies' Christmas Party	12/5/23	NOW	\$22	Dick Pinkes	508-769-2913
Holiday Tour - <i>Delaney House, Yankee Candle & Bright Nights</i>	12/7/23	NOW	\$113	George Barry	508-799-0739
Men's Christmas Party	12/13/23	10/18	\$5	Rick Ferguson	508-688-4427
* New Year's Eve Day Dinner Dance - <i>Maironis Park</i>	12/31/23	NOW	\$80	Ralph Shapiro	413-537-2435
St. Patrick's Luncheon and Show - <i>Aqua Turf</i> <u>2nd Bus Added</u>	3/12/24	NOW	\$111	Dick Pinkes	508-769-2913
Daniel Webster Inn - <i>With the Heritage Museum & Gardens</i>	5/21/24	NOW	\$126	George Barry	508-799-0739
* The Legends Live – The Songs you Love - <i>Aqua Turf</i>	8/13/24	NOW	\$122	George Barry	508-799-0739

OVERNIGHT TRIPS

Penn Dutch Show Stopper – <i>featuring "Moses"</i>	10/3-5/23	<i>Wait List</i>	\$704	Jim Hester	508-852-3473
Mediterranean & Greek Island Cruise	10/10-23/23	NOW	\$4,489/5,569	George Barry	508-799-0739
Inside Vietnam	10/29-11/17/23	NOW	\$4,095	Ralph Shapiro	413-537-2435
White Mountain Hotel Christmas	11/27-29/23	<i>Wait List</i>	\$830	Dick Pinkes	508-769-2913
Savannah Southern Charm – <i>with Historic Charleston</i>	4/13-20/24	NOW	\$2,745	George Barry	508-799-0739
Canyons and Casinos	5/13-19/24	NOW	\$2,939	Dick Pinkes	508-769-2913
Upper Mississippi River – <i>Minnesota to St. Louis</i>	7/14-23/24	NOW	\$3,389/5,889	George Barry	508-799-0739
Poconos Escape	7/22-25/24	<i>Wait List</i>	\$1,079	Dick Pinkes	508-769-2913
Red Rocks of Sedona	9/15-20/24	<i>Wait List</i>	\$2,679	Dick Shea	508-853-2024
Impressions of Italy – <i>The Amalfi Coast & Tuscany</i>	10/19-11/3/24	NOW	\$5,095	Rick Ferguson	508-688-4427

All prices quoted are per person (Double Occupancy) - Refunds will be made per printed club policy. The first sale date was originated to make it possible for all members to have an equal chance to get in on any and all trips. Detailed trip flyers are available at Wednesday meetings (or by telephone) from the designated trip leaders.

Women's Initiative Update

The results of the September 13th voting to admit women to full membership was overwhelmingly positive.

931 For

88 Against

6 Ballots "return to sender" by the USPS

Our Articles of Reorganization are in front of the Secretary of State right now. There are still a few procedural matters that must be attended to, but, rest assured, we will legally be **The Retired Friends Club of Greendale** in the very near future.

— Your Membership Committee

Trip Descriptions

NEW YEAR'S EVE DAY DINNER DANCE

NEW

December 31, 2023 (Sunday)\$80 pp

Highlights: Come celebrate New Year's Eve at Maironis Park in Shrewsbury. Enjoy a buffet dinner and dance to the music of the D.B. Orchestra. Doors open @ 11 AM and dancing until 6 PM.

ONLY 30 TICKETS AVAILABLE.

Trip Leader: Ralph Shapiro 413-537-2435
ralphvshapiro@msn.com

ST PATRICK'S LUNCHEON AND SHOW 2nd Bus

March 12, 2024 (Tuesday)\$111 pp

Highlights: We'll be celebrating St. Patrick's Day at the Aqua Turf Club. We'll first enjoy a complimentary tray of donuts and coffee on arrival. Followed by a delicious luncheon served family style – includes a fresh green salad, traditional Corned Beef & Cabbage, Pasta, Baked Schrod, potatoes and vegetables. A Complimentary glass of beer or wine and desert are also included. Coffee/Tea are also included. This will all be followed by a fantastic St Patrick's Show featuring Padraig Allen and the McLean Avenue Band who have their own sound with old Irish Celtic folklore and rock pop Celtic music for your enjoyment. You'll also enjoy the Irish Step Dancers. Join your friends for a wonderful combination of great cuisine and entertainment. One more thing, they provide a free raffle for some great prizes. This is truly a great location, meal and show. Sign up early as this sells out fast.

Parking: Immaculate Conception Church Lot

Trip Leader: Dick Pinkes 508-769-2913
rjpinkes1@verizon.net

CANYONS AND CASINOS

May 13-19, 2024 (Monday - Sunday)\$2,939 pp/do

Highlights: Fly Direct to Las Vegas and transfer to our hotel, CasaBlanca Resort & Casino in Mesquite where we'll spend two nights. We'll visit both Zion and Bryce Canyon National Parks. We then return to Vegas stopping en route to visit the Valley of Fire State Park. We'll spend two nights in Vegas at the Paris Hotel, Planet Hollywood, or similar, right across the street from the Bellagio and it's famous outside water fountain show. We'll also attend a matinee show, take a neon tour of Vegas at night, and enjoy the Fremont Street Experience. After breakfast the morning of day 5 it's off to the Grand Canyon for two nights. On our way there we'll stop in Williams. NV for lunch at the Route 66 Diner and then a visit to the Grand Canyon IMAX Theater for a spectacular 3-D show on the Grand Canyon. Our hotel, one of the Grand Canyon Lodges, is right at the South Rim. On our 2nd day there, we will have a canyon tour including 3 or 4 overlooks. There will be time to walk to the vistas on your own before an included dinner at the Lodge. This trip includes 6 Breakfasts, 1 Lunch and 5 dinners. Dinner one night in Vegas is on own for each to enjoy the buffet of their choice. It also includes Airport Transfers, Full Time Tour Guide, all tours described above, Insurance, and Portage of one bag. This trip is limited to 48 people so sign up quickly.

Parking: Maironis Park

Trip Leader: Dick Pinkes 508-769-2913
rjpinkes1@verizon.net

DANIEL WEBSTER INN — CAPE COD WITH THE HERITAGE MUSEUM AND GARDENS

May 21, 2024\$126 pp (Includes Driver Gratuity)

Highlights: Join us as we travel to Cape Cod's oldest town of Sandwich. We will arrive at the Daniel Webster Inn which offers a quaint village atmosphere with New England charm. Our luncheon is an outstanding example of the Inn's fine cuisine which is nationally recognized. Following lunch, we will visit the Heritage Museum and Gardens also in Sandwich. This location features many colorful plants and flowers spread over their property. They have walking trails and tram type vehicles that will bring you through the park. The Heritage features many riveting exhibits such as the Antique Auto Museum, the History Museum featuring American Kitchens and a 100-year-old hand carved Carousel. It will bring back many pleasant memories of earlier years. Please tell your friends about this excellent day trip.

Parking: Immaculate Conception Church Lot

Trip Leader: George Barry 508-799-0739
george.barry77@yahoo.com

LEGENDS LIVE — THE SONGS YOU LOVE AQUA TURF CLUB

NEW

August 13, 2024 (Tuesday)\$122 pp

Highlights: Join us as we travel to Western Massachusetts for the best this region has to offer. We begin at the Delaney House Restaurant in Holyoke. You will select your entree of Beef, Chicken or Fish complete with Soup of the Day, Signature Bread and Butter, fresh Seasonal Vegetables, rolls, desert of the day and a coffee/decaf or tea. Our next stop is the Yankee Candle Store in South Deerfield. They have many rooms filled with treasures including home and kitchen goods, fudge and Christmas merchandise. The candle selection is more than 200 fragrances and 200,000 candles. Our last stop is the Bright Nights to see the festive twinkling lights in Springfield's Forest Park. It is the largest holiday light display in New England. We will drive through magnificently lit displays including Seuss Land, Victorian Village, and the North Pole Village. This will be a trip that you will not soon forget.

Parking: Immaculate Conception Church Lot

Trip Leader: George Barry 508-799-0739
george.barry77@yahoo.com

IMPRESSIONS OF ITALY

October 19 to November 3, 2024\$5,095 pp/do

Highlights: This 14 day Grand Circle tour of Italy takes us from the Amalfi Coast, twisting along the sapphire Mediterranean to the pastoral landscapes of Tuscany. We discover the varied delights of Italy on this Grand Central Tour, as we seek out the art and architectural wonders of the Middle Ages, Renaissance, and the Ancient World. On this trip you will experience the history, culture, food, and music of these areas of Italy: along with many surprises that Grand Circle is known for. There will be a Trip Presentation at a future date, watch the Newsletter for details.

Parking: Maironis Park

Trip Leader: Rick Ferguson 508-688-4427
rwfergy@icloud.com

**The Retired Men's Club
of Greendale, Inc.**
Greendale Y. M. C. A.
75 Shore Drive
Worcester, MA 01605

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U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Worcester, MA
Permit No. 46

Check out our **NEW Website: rfcg.info**

TUESDAY Summer Bowling League – Final Standings 2023

BAYBERRY LANES 326 Main Street, Spencer
Coordinators: **Jim Connolly, Bob Converse, Dave Meyers** woostatown28@charter.net

Place	Team	Captain & Team Member
1	#1	Bill Plante , Don Desrosiers, Shawn Dyer, Art Douglas
2	#5	Jim Connolly , Bill Hoag, Don Bocian, Felix Piscitelli
3	#4	Carl Masshardt , Bob Goulet, Henry Rossik, Dennis Laporte
4	#7	Ken Miller , Mike Mudd, Mike Grasseschi, Charlie Bromage
HA	Bill Plante 96, Dave Meyers 94, Gerard Piscitelli 91	
HIT	Evan Plante 352, Dave Meyers 327, Bill Prince 318	
HIS	Evan Plante 140, Dave Meyers, Don Fair and Jim Connolly 119	

Green Hill Golf League – Full Year Winners

John Kelly, Coordinator 860-798-6272
kelly.john.r@gmail.com

A Division:

- 1st** – Paul Lienard & Ross Tubo
2nd – Ray Starvaski & Walt Wasiuk
3rd Tie:
– Hector Contreras & Tom White;
– Tim Brady & Bruce Anderson;
– Dave Wiggins & Mike Dyer

B Division:

- 1st** – Ken Buckland & Russ Lacasse
2nd – Jim Dame & Jim Halpin
3rd – Dick Perry & Bill McGovern

26th Annual Ladies' Christmas Party

Our Twenty-sixth Annual Ladies Christmas Party will be at **Manor Restaurant** in West Boylston on **Tuesday, December 5, 2023**. Please plan to kick-off the Christmas Season with the woman in your life at this wonderful event.



We'll start with a Social Hour+ at 11:00 AM and dinner at 12:45 PM. Your choice of Queen Cut Prime Rib, Baked Haddock or Baked Stuffed Chicken. Dan Mack-owiak & Friends will be providing us with dance music and music of the Christmas Season.

Tickets are \$22 per person and are on sale NOW at any of our regular meetings until 11/15/23. Mail order tickets will be accepted until 11/22/23. A maximum of 260 tickets will be sold so sign up quickly. **See Dick Pinkes, or call him at (508) 769-2913**

2023 Men's Christmas Party



Our annual Men's Christmas Party will be held on **Wednesday, December 13th** at 10 a.m. It will feature a fantastic luncheon prepared by Blanchard Catering and served at the YMCA. We also have Great Speakers, Holiday Music and Attendance Prizes.

Come early, have coffee and mingle before the program and meal. Remember this event goes on rain, snow or shine. The \$5.00 per member tickets are on sale at our weekly meetings starting 10/18/23.

See Al Monfreda or Rick Ferguson at a weekly meeting, or call Al at (508) 757-2601.

It's Renewal Season

Fall is the time of year that we ask our members (who are not Life Members) to pay their **Annual \$10 Renewal Dues**. If you have not already done so for this 2023-2024 year, please renew ASAP either by mail or in person (at a Wednesday meeting).

See Remittance Form below.



Remittance Form for New Members, Life Members, Renewals Or Newsletter Subscribers

FOR NEW MEMBERS (AGE 55 & OVER)

- ☐ **DUES = \$10/yr OR \$100/life-membership**
• Pay at any meeting at Membership Table.
• If not possible, mail form & check to:
RMCG
YMCA - 75 Shore Drive
Worcester MA 01605

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS (FOR CURRENT MEMS.)

- ☐ **DUES RENEWAL = \$10/yr OR \$100/life**
• Pay at any meeting at Membership Table.
• If not possible - mail form, check **AND pre-addressed postage-paid envelope AND prior Year's Membership Card** to the above 75 Shore Drive address.

The monthly Newsletter is included in dues.

****NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTIONS (WOMEN 55 & OVER)***

Newsletter Subscription Fee (annual) \$10.00
Please check one: ☐ **NEW** or ☐ **RENEWAL**
• Make check payable to RMCG and mail with this Remittance Form to:
RMCG Newsletter Subscriptions
YMCA - 75 Shore Drive
Worcester, MA 01605

- **DO NOT** enclose a pre-addressed postage paid envelope with your payment.
• Cancelled check will be your receipt.
• Identification cards are not issued to WOMAN Newsletter Subscribers.

****When the new By-Laws changes go into effect all subscribers will be made full members.***

New members joining after May 1st will be considered paid-up for the next fiscal year which starts on Sept. 1st.

PLEASE SUBMIT FOLLOWING INFORMATION

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY - STATE - ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____

EMAIL _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____

RETIRED FROM _____

OCCUPATION _____ VETERAN ☐

REFERRED BY _____