

ON THE

SHOULDERS



OF GIANTS

WORCESTER, MA

FOUNDED 1952



Greetings!

It's now mid-summer and our families are enjoying vacations, trips to the beach, summer reading, travel, rest and relaxation.

On July 31st we have our annual corn roast at SAC Park in Shrewsbury. It is always a big hit with our membership and I hope to see you there.

This past year our club lost two great and faithful leaders in Tom Cullinane and Al Monfreda. Tom was a past president who was an extraordinary man and trip leader. Al was our 2nd Vice-president always willing to serve and contribute to our organization.

We have new officers in Stan Swenson, Russ Lacasse and John Pepi. Also, John Kelly, Jim Gallagher, Paul Johnson, Ed Harrison, Dave Cochran, Carol Bethany, Ken Buma, Dave Daoust, Jerry Lagueux, Dave Nolan, Lee Bartlett, Sandy Wreschinsky, and Ken Daigle are diligent leaders making our club the success it is.

On Wednesday, September 4, 2024 the Retired Friends Club of Greendale will launch its seventy-third year at the Y. Through these many years our leaders have provided quality entertainment in the arts, history and sports. Music, the universal language, is always provided and a great crowd pleaser.

Our bowling and golf leagues continue to attract members who enjoy the opportunity to get out and share the fun and camaraderie together.

Our club provides many excellent opportunities for travel with affordable day and overnight trips. These sojourns are always fun and well organized by our trip leaders Dick Pinkes, George Barry, Dick Shea, Ralph Shapiro, Jim Hester, Wilson McLaren and Rick Ferguson.

Through these many activities we have positively contributed to the richness and joy of life for our members. Through these various programs and activities we have, through word of mouth, attracted many new members. I encourage each of you to promote all of these wonderful activities and add new members to our club!

— RICK FERGUSON, President

Farewell to Al Monfreda



On Thursday, June 13, 2024 the Retired Friends Club of Greendale lost a rising star. Our 2nd Vice President, **Al Monfreda**, passed away. We send our heartfelt condolences to Terry, his wife; Jay and Derek his sons; Rosemary his sister and his entire family. His loss to them and our club is truly significant.

Al was always willing to serve our club and our membership. He had a welcoming smile and cared deeply for people. The son of a D-Day veteran he had a strong foundation of courage and service. As a young boy, Al would run errands for his neighbors, the nuns of Venerini Academy. Graduating from the last class of the High School of Commerce in 1966, he was an excellent artist and wonderful friend to many.

Al soon enlisted in the United States Air Force where he served with distinction during the Vietnam War. A decorated Airman, he loved the Air Force and he loved his country. He was a true patriot. He and Terry recently celebrated their fifty-third wedding anniversary. She and Al were inseparable. They enjoyed annual trips to Disney World with their family. Al and Terry collaborated in the many trips and programs offered by our club. Al loved playing golf in the RFCG Golf League and made many friends competing and laughing at Green Hill.

Always willing to take on more responsibility Al became the 3rd and 2nd Vice President of our club. He performed his duties, much as he did throughout his life, with excellence and good natured composure. He was open to become a trip leader before his illness took hold. Al was guided by his good friends Tom Cullinane, Dick Pinkes and John Kelly.

We will miss Al's infectious smile and good humor. We also know that our lives have been made better for having Albert Francis Monfreda in them.

—GODSPEED BROTHER



Al and some of our members were introduced to PGA HOPE by John Kelly in our RFCG Golf League. The sign was made by PGA HOPE (Helping Our Patriots Everywhere) which is an organization that supports Veterans. The sign is in honor of Al (who was kidded about not having a 5-iron during several lessons).

The people in the picture are (L to R) Al's son Derek, his grandson Mark, his wife Terry and his son Jay. It was a wonderful celebration honoring Al. From now on every year the final PGA HOPE lesson will be known as the "Monfreda 5-Iron Memorial Scramble".

We Invite You to Attend the Following Informative Trip Presentations

Thursday, Oct 10, 2024 - 10:00 AM
at **Immaculate Conception Church**

353 Grove Street, Worcester (Parking in back)
(The parish hall is in the basement of the church.)

Summer in Ogunquit, Maine

Aug. 19-21, 2025 - \$1,275 pp/do **NEW**

Highlights: Travel to Maine to visit Portland, Kennebunkport, and Ogunquit. We'll first visit the Seaport area of Portland for sightseeing and lunch, on our own at the Old Port followed by a Harbor Lights and Sights cruise on Casco Bay. We travel back to Ogunquit to check into our hotel for two nights, the Meadowmere Resort. On Day 2 we tour Kennebunkport with lunch on our own. In the afternoon we have time to explore the village of Ogunquit and Perkins Cove. After an early dinner at the hotel, we're off to the **Ogunquit Playhouse** to take in a Broadway Musical. On our last day we'll travel down the Maine coast to York, Maine's First Town, where we'll visit the Museums of Old York. There we'll participate in "hands-on" demonstrations of 17th Century cooking, weaving and schoolhouse lessons followed by a tour of nearby York its beaches and lighthouses ending at Foster's Clambake for a traditional meal of lobster, clams, chowder and all the fixings with live fun and entertainment. On the way home we'll stop at either Stonewall Kitchen or When Pig's Fly Bakery. Includes 2 Breakfast, 1 lunch, 2 Dinners, all gratuities for driver, Escort and Guide, insurance and portage of one bag per person. This will be a nice late summer trip to a great area.

This and many other features will be covered at our Trip Presentation. Looking forward to seeing you all there. This will be an exciting trip so sign up early!



Please contact Dick Pinkes at (508) 769-2913 or rjpinkes1@verizon.net to let him know you will be coming.

Thursday, Oct 10, 2024 - 12:30 PM
at **Immaculate Conception Church**

Northern National Parks

GLACIER, YELLOWSTONE & GRAND TETONS

Sept. 19-28, 2025 - \$5,629 pp/do **NEW**

Highlights: We start our trip in Spokane Washington with a Numerica Sky Ride and a ride on the Loooff Carousel. Next we'll visit Coeur d'Alene with time for shopping and a night-time Sunset Dinner Cruise. We travel through Big Sky Country and tour Glacier NP for two days. Then it's off to Butte, MT, home of some of the largest copper deposits in America. We now go to Yellowstone National Park for two nights and two days of touring, with a guide both days, the 3rd most visited National Park in our country. On day 8 we visit Grand Teton National Park with a full day of touring the park with lunch in the historic Mural Room at the Jackson Lake Lodge. Our day ends with a three hour Covered Wagon Cookout and Show. On day 9 we spend time enjoying the shops and sites in Jackson Town Square, then travel to Soda Springs Idaho for lunch and end our day at the Embassy Suites in South Jordan Utah. On our last day we will go to Salt Lake City for a visit to the Salt Lake Tabernacle and a performance of the Mormon Tabernacle Choir before departing for the airport and our early afternoon flight home. We'll have visited 5 states and 3 of our most Iconic National Parks. Includes 22 meals - 9 Breakfasts, 5 Lunches, 8 Dinners, R/T Air, all gratuities for driver and tour guides, insurance and portage of one bag per person. This will be a great early Fall trip to some of our greatest National Parks.

This and many other features will be covered at our Trip Presentation. Looking forward to seeing you all there. This will be an exciting trip so sign up early.



Please contact Dick Pinkes at (508) 769-2913 or rjpinkes1@verizon.net to let him know you will be coming.

If you know of any member who is ill, or has passed away, or has moved, please contact the club secretary, Carol Bethoney at (508) 243-1204 or email cbitaly2@gmail.com

Deceased Members

RICHARD BELISLE
JOHN F. BUCKLEY, II
ARTHUR H. CLEMONS

RAYMOND COTE
CHARLES W. CRONE
ZACHARY ESPER

BRADFORD HAWLEY
GERALD E. LEBLANC
EDMUND J. MARKEVICIUS

ALBERT MONFREDA
NORMAN C. SIMO
ROGER VAUGHAN

CANYONS & CASINOS

On this great trip we flew direct to Las Vegas which we left right away, but we'll be back. We took a bus to our hotel, Casablanca Resort & Casino in Mesquite, NV where we spent two nights with breakfast and dinner each day and had our first exposure to Nevada casinos. With that as our base we spent our 2nd day touring both Zion and Bryce Canyon National Parks with an included and delicious box lunch. Each of these Parks were unique and provided different views of these famous Parks.

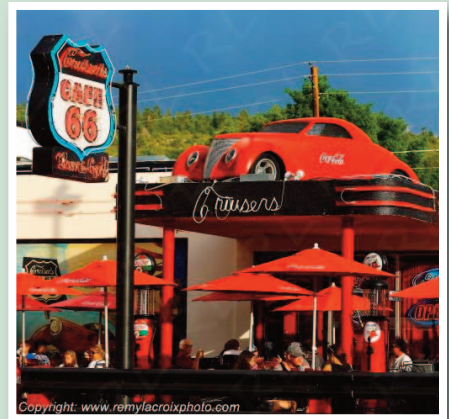


On day three we returned to Las Vegas. We spent two nights in Vegas at Planet Hollywood, right across the street from the Bellagio and its famous outside water fountain show. What a place Las Vegas was for the eyes. Breakfast was included each day and a group dinner on the first night. There was an included variety show, "V=The Ultimate Variety Show", on the first night which we all enjoyed. We left the 2nd night free and many of us did our own things. Some of us went to another Vegas show, visited a casino or two, and many took the included neon tour of Vegas at night and enjoyed the Fremont Street Experience. Wouldn't want to pay their electric bill.

After breakfast the morning of day 5 it's off to the Grand Canyon for two nights. On our way there we stopped in Williams, NV for lunch at the Route 66 Diner, an extra paid for by Landmark Tours. Our hotel, The Thunderbird Lodge, was inside the park and right on the South Rim with spectacular views from either your room or just outside your door. Breakfast and dinner were included each day. We started our 2nd day there with a visit to the Grand Canyon IMAX Theater for a spectacular 3-D show on the Grand Canyon. We had lunch at the Maswick Lodge followed by a tram tour by our Tour Escort that included three additional South Rim overlooks. There was additional time to walk to the vistas on your own followed by an included BBQ dinner at the Lodge, with beer and wine provided by Landmark Tours. On our last day we grabbed the included breakfast and took in some last-minute views of the Grand Canyon before we left for Phoenix Sky Harbor Airport for our mid-afternoon flight home.

What I enjoyed most about this trip were our visits to 3 National Parks, each of them Grand in their own way. I now have the desire to see more of our country and will be going to the Great Smoky Mountain NP in September and Glacier, Yellowstone and Grand Tetons NP in Sep. of 2025. Hope to see many of you there.

— DICK PINKES, *Trip Leader*



~ I haven't been everywhere, but it's on my list. ~



Day & Overnight Trips For The Years 2024–2025

DAY TRIPS

DESTINATION	DATES	F/SALE	PRICE	LEADER(S)	TELEPHONE
Annual Corn Roast – SAC Park Shrewsbury	7/31/24	–	FREE		
WooSox - All Inclusive – No Parking Headaches – We Bus from IC Lot	8/1/24	NOW	\$67	John Kelly	860-798-6272
Lake Sunapee Luncheon Cruise	8/8/24	<i>Wait List</i>	\$127	Dick Pinkes	508-769-2913
The Legends Live - The Songs you Love - Aqua Turf	8/13/24	<i>Wait List</i>	\$122	George Barry	508-799-0739
American Bandstand Tribute - Luncheon & Show - Aqua Turf	10/8/24	<i>Wait List</i>	\$115	Dick Pinkes	508-769-2913
N.H. Turkey Train	10/17/24	<i>Wait List</i>	\$115	Dick Pinkes	508-769-2913
Christmas Time with the Reagle Players	12/7/24	<i>Wait List</i>	\$150	Dick Pinkes	508-769-2913
Holiday Classics with the Cartells - Aqua Turf	12/10/24	NOW	\$122	George Barry	508-799-0739

OVERNIGHT TRIPS

Saratoga and Lake George	8/14-15/24	NOW	\$609	Ralph Shapiro	413-537-2435
Hudson Valley Balloon Festival – With Cruise on Hudson River	8/31-9/2/24	<i>Wait List</i>	\$690	George Barry	508-799-0739
Red Rocks of Sedona	9/15-20/24	<i>Wait List</i>	\$2,809	Dick Shea	508-853-2024
Great Smoky Mountains – with Gatlinburg & Asheville	9/24-10/2/24	NOW	\$3,048	Dick Pinkes	508-769-2913
Impressions of Italy – The Amalfi Coast & Tuscany	10/19-11/3/24	NOW	\$5,095	Rick Ferguson	508-688-4427
Romance of the Rhine & Mosel River	11/7-24/24	<i>Wait List</i>	\$4,295 / 4,895	Ralph Shapiro	413-537-2435
Ogunquit Christmas by the Sea	12/14-15/24	<i>Wait List</i>	\$491	George Barry	508-799-0739
Atlantic City at the Resorts	2/17-19/25	NOW	\$385	Wilson McLaren	508-869-2451
Exotic Repositioning Caribbean Cruise – Tampa to Boston	3/28-4/11/25	NOW	\$2,837 / 4,243	Dick Pinkes	508-769-2913
Highlights of Norway	5/3-11/25	NOW	\$5,548	George Barry	508-799-0739
England, Scotland and Wales	5/15-30/25	NOW	\$5,545	Rick Ferguson	508-688-4427
* Victorian Cape May	6/16-19/25	NOW	\$1,485	Dick Pinkes	508-769-2913
Newfoundland, Greenland & Iceland Cruise	7/12-27/25	NOW	\$4,849 / 6,189	Dick Shea	508-853-2024
* Ogunquit, Kennebunkport & Portland	8/19-21/25	NOW	\$1,275	Dick Pinkes	508-769-2913
Upper Mississippi River – St. Louis to Minnesota	9/5-13/25	NOW	from \$5,609	George Barry	508-799-0739
* Northern National Parks – Glacier, Yellowstone & Grand Tetons	9/19-28/25	NOW	\$5,629	Dick Pinkes	508-769-2913

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.

* Symbols, represent
NEW TRIPS this month.

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

We Invite You to Attend the Following Informative Trip Presentation

Thursday, Oct 10, 2024 - 2:00 PM
at **Immaculate Conception Church**

Victorian Cape May NEW

June 16-19, 2025 - \$1,485 pp/do

Highlights: Travel to the Southern tip of New Jersey to Cape May, a Victorian Village listed on the National Register of Historic Places. We'll stay for three nights at the Marquis De Lafayette on Beach



Avenue. We will visit the Physick Estate and take a trolley ride through the historic district. We'll also visit Cape May Point State Park, Lighthouse, and Sunset Beach. Enjoy a boat tour around Cape May Point and up the coast viewing the seashore, dolphins, birds and other wildlife. There is a winery visit, dinners at two historic Cape May Inns and one at the Lobster House Restaurant. We'll also tour the Wheaton Village and Arts Center and visit the Towns of Historic Smithville and enjoy shopping in the shops along the Boardwalk and Village Green. There will also be free time to enjoy the beach across from our hotel. Includes 3 Breakfast, 3 Dinners, all gratuities for driver, escort and local guides, and insurance and portage of one bag per person. This will be a nice pre-summer trip to a great area.

This and many other features will be covered at our Trip Presentation. Looking forward to seeing you all there. This will be an exciting trip so sign up early.

Please contact Dick Pinkes at (508) 769-2913 or rjpinkes1@verizon.net to let him know you will be coming.

Trip Descriptions

Impressions of Italy

2024

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 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.

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

UPPER MISSISSIPPI CRUISE

2025

September 5 to 13, 2025 from \$5,609 pp/do

Highlights: Join us as we travel to the upper reaches of the Mississippi River where every moment resonates with the essence of hometown Americana and the breathtaking beauty that has captivated the imagination of our nations most revered writers and artists like Mark Twain who brought this region to life through his writings. On our arrival, we fly into St Louis, MO and spend one night in luxurious accommodations at the Embassy Suites Downtown centrally located. Enjoy a welcome reception and breakfast at the hotel, then explore St. Louis with a local guide before boarding the American Heritage paddle-wheel riverboat, which combines modern amenities with design elements from the 19th Century steamboat era. This 150-passenger riverboat offers exceptionally large staterooms, most with balconies, 7 lounges, complimentary cocktails, free WiFi, exceptional cuisine and included shore excursions. The cruise accommodations include all meals and beverages, on-board lectures and daily excursions, and all gratuities. This trip is one that you will remember for a long time.

As with all cruise ships there are a limited number of staterooms in each category. This ship is filling up fast (some stateroom categories are already sold-out).

So, don't delay in signing up for this great adventure. Contact George Barry to reserve your spot with a deposit today.

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

ATLANTIC CITY AT THE RESORTS

2025

Feb 17 to 19, 2025 . . . \$385 pp (double or triple) / \$491 (single)

Highlights: Travel with your friends to ATLANTIC CITY to a world Class Casino on the world famous Boardwalk. You will receive a casino bonus of \$20 slot play, plus two \$20 Meal vouchers to be use at any restaurants at the RESORTS and ticket to a review show (if available). We leave from the Calliope Production parking lot in Boylston MA at 7:00A.M.

Trip Leader: Wilson McLaren 508-869-2451
macgpc@aol.com

ENGLAND, SCOTLAND AND WALES

2025

May 15 to 30, 2025 \$5,545 pp/do

Highlights: Join us on this fantastic 16 day trip as we travel from London and visit Bath, Wales, York, the Lake District and end in Edinburgh in Scotland. Join us as we explore the beauty, culture and foods of London, one of the largest cosmopolitan cities in the world. We will see Windsor, Parliament, Big Ben and Oxford. Marvel at the Roman Baths, the alluring British Gardens and Stonehenge. We will also visit the picturesque countryside of Snowdonia In Wales. Our journey brings us to the walled city of York and then the breathtaking Lake District. We end our travels in the ancient city of Edinburgh and marvel at the panoramic views of the Royal Mile including a visit to Edinburgh Castle. This adventure will leave us with great lifetime memories of these beautiful countries.

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

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

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Worcester, MA
Permit No. 46

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

TUESDAY Summer Bowling League – First Half Standings

Place	Team	Captain & Team Member
1	#5	Gerard Piscitelli , Dave Flint, Dave Martin, Dave Catallozzi
2	#3	Bill Plante , Ken Miller, Neil Carmody, Bob Goulet
3	#9	Frank Visci , Felix Piscitelli, Paul Prince, George Calimeris
HA	Gerard Piscitelli 97, Dave Meyers 96, Bill Plante 96	
HIT	Evan Plante 322, Paul Soden 320, Dave Meyers 319	
HIS	Art Douglas 131, Dave Meyers 129, Carl Masshardt 127	

Green Hill Golf League

John Kelly, Coordinator860-798-6272
kelly.john.r@gmail.com

First Half Standings

	<u>Division A</u>		<u>Division B</u>
1st	Tom Nicholas Mike Dyer	1st	Bruce Anderson Ron Parse
2nd	Bernie Dow Walt Wasiuk	2nd	Ken Buckland Russ Lacasse
3rd	Dave Wiggins Tom White	3rd	Dick Pinkes Bill McGovern

Don't Miss The Annual CORN ROAST

Wednesday, July 31st, 10:00am
at SAC Park in Shrewsbury.

Free for all paid up and life members and one guest.

No Reservations Needed.



Accordionist Ray Cav-icchio and Terese will be providing music again this year. You will be served a club sandwich, chips, pickle, and two ears of corn at about 11:30 by table. **Beverages may NOT be brought onto the grounds.** We are also planning a 50/50 raffle sale prior to lunch along with some door prizes after lunch. The corn will be pre-shucked by the farmer for the caterer, MCL Custom Catering and therefore **NO volunteer shuckers will be needed this year.** Extra sandwiches and corn will be available for sale after lunch.

See you there, rain or shine.

Attention Members !

Membership Cards:

The membership cards for 2024-2025 are now available. Non-Life Members can renew early, if they wish to, and avoid the September rush by mailing-in their renewal dues over the Summer.



Life Membership: For a one time fee of \$150, new or existing members can forget about paying annual dues and be paid-up for LIFE!

(see instructions for Renewing or becoming a Life Member at the bottom of this page).

RFCG Remittance Form for New Members, Renewals & Life Members

Dues For NEW Members *(Men & Women - Age 55 & Over)*

- ☐ **ANNUAL** = \$15/yr
or
☐ **FOR LIFE** = \$150 /life-membership

- Pay at any meeting.
- If not possible, mail form and check to:
RFCG
YMCA - 75 Shore Drive
Worcester MA 01605

The monthly Newsletter is included in dues.

RENEWAL Dues *(For Current Members)*

- ☐ **ANNUAL** = \$15/yr
or
☐ **FOR LIFE** = \$150 /life-membership

- Pay at any meeting.
- If not possible, mail form, check and a **pre-addressed postage-paid envelope AND prior Year's Membership Card** to:
RFCG
YMCA - 75 Shore Drive
Worcester MA 01605

PLEASE SUBMIT FOLLOWING INFORMATION

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY - STATE - ZIP _____
TELEPHONE _____
EMAIL _____
DATE OF BIRTH _____
RETIRED FROM _____
OCCUPATION _____ VETERAN ☐
REFERRED BY _____

New or Current members paying after May 1st will be considered paid-up for the next fiscal year which starts on September 1st and ends August 31st.