

# December 13, 2022

**President Jeff Shapiro** called the meeting to order at 9:05 AM in the Ballroom of the Sharon Community Center. 58 Members and guests were signed in.

**Ed Shifman** was called upon to present the Colors and lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**President's Remarks:** A **Certificate of Appreciation** was presented to **Gerry Epstein** for his many years of service to the Club to ensure the weekly raffle's efficient and successful operation.

New members are reminded that they are entitled to a free ticket to one of our monthly breakfast meetings. See Treasurer Ralph Jacobs or Assistant Treasurer Harvey Levine to take advantage of that opportunity.

There will be no Monthly Breakfast in January of 2023. A regular meeting and guest speaker are planned for Whitney Place.

**Membership: Committee Member Phil Rosen** introduced us to **Steve Goldstein**, and **Al Brickman** whose applications for membership were approved by the members present. Phil provided them with the required information and orientation. Welcome aboard, Steve and Al!

**Secretary's Report: Secretary Norman Ainbinder** read the meeting minutes from December 6<sup>th</sup> which were accepted as read.

**Glad and Sad: Harvey Tobolsky** notified us of the passing of **Milton Dean** on November 19<sup>th</sup>. Donations in his memory may be sent to the Joslin Diabetes Center or the charity of your choice. A private service was held at Sharon Memorial Park on November 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Whist: Assistant Secretary Ed Rubin** reminded the members that the group meets on Wednesday afternoons downstairs at the Senior Center. Advanced reservations are required and may be made by contacting Ed.

**Charity: Committee Chairman Andy Klassman** asked that we consider payments by personal check to either food banks supported by SMC. Checks may be given to Andy at any of our meetings. There is also a need for personal care and household items in addition to your nonperishable food donations, which may be left on the table at the rear of this room.

**Walking Group: Andy Klassman** reminded us that the Friday morning walks continue, weather permitting. Please get in touch with Andy for details.

**Bermuda Cruise: Jim Maltz** announced that he and some other club members planned a cruise to Bermuda from Boston on Norwegian Cruise Lines in June of 2023. An informal group traveling on the exact dates can take advantage of some discounts that could be shared amongst the group. Please get in touch with Jim if you are interested in joining in. This is not a club-sponsored trip.

**Program Committee: Chairman Bob Soffer** introduced **Dr. Robert Baritz** of Brockton, MA. Dr. Baritz is a Chiropractor, Nutritionist, and Herbalist and participates in Acupoint Physical Medicine and PET Acupressure Therapy. Dr. Baritz spoke of the importance of maintaining a healthy diet and exercise regimen as we age. Lack of physical activity in later years is a serious

problem we should try to address. He also mentioned the need to improve blood flow by applying messages and pressure at various critical points in our bodies, which he has identified. The Sharon Men's Club Disclaimer was read, for the record, at the outset of this presentation. An exciting and informative Q & period took place.

Raffle: There were two winners

The next meeting is on December 20<sup>th</sup> at the Community Center.

Respectfully submitted

Norman Ainbinder, Secretary

## December 20, 2022

**President Jeff Shapiro** called the meeting to order at 9:10 AM in the Ballroom of the Sharon Community Center. 52 Members and guests were signed in.

**Ed Shifman** presented the **Colors** and lead us in the **Pledge of Allegiance**.

**President's Remarks:** Jeff wished everyone a Happy Hanukkah and/or Merry Christmas. There will not be breakfast in January 2023, as Peter Bickoff will not be available. Instead, we will have a regular meeting on January 3, 2023, with a speaker at Whitney Place. The next Monthly Breakfast is now planned for February 7, 2023.

**Kathy Medeiros, Executive Director of the Sharon Council on Aging**, was called upon, and she expressed Seasons Greetings from the Council to the members. She also asked that we consider volunteering any time we may have available to assist the Council. Drivers are frequently needed to provide rides to local appointments. Please see her downstairs in the building if you are interested.

**Secretary's Report: Secretary Norman Ainbinder** read the minutes of the December 13<sup>th</sup> meeting, which were accepted without change.

**Day Trips Committee:** Don't hesitate to contact Dan Liberman if you are interested in assisting him with planning.

**Corn Hole Club: Barry Fireman** asked for a show of hands of those interested in joining a group of competitors. Please see Barry for additional information.

**Speakers Committee: Chairman Bob Soffer** introduced **Robert Pierson, Director of the Norfolk County Retired and Senior Volunteer Program**.

Mr. Pierson reviewed some of the many volunteer opportunities available through his office and the various organizations they partner with. Background checks are performed on all volunteer applicants. Some of the available assignments involve providing a ride to someone in need, and mileage reimbursements are given to drivers. Organizations in need of assistance and those interested in volunteering may contact him at his office in Dedham.

A very informative Q & A period followed.

**Raffle:** There were two winners.

**The next meeting** will be here on the 27<sup>th</sup>.

Respectfully submitted,

Norman Ainbinder, Secretary

## December 27, 2022

**President Jeff Shapiro** called the meeting to order at 9:10 AM in the Ballroom of the Sharon Community Center. 58 Members and guests were present and signed in.

**Warren Anastasia** presented the **Colors** and led us in the **Pledge of Allegiance**.

**President's Remarks:** Jeff extended greetings to the membership for a Healthy and Happy New Year. It is strongly recommended that all members resume wearing masks during our meetings as there is currently an uptick in Covid and Seasonal Flu. Our age group is considered the most vulnerable. Our meetings and activities at Whitney Place are canceled for the time being as there is an outbreak of Covid within their residential community. We will be in touch with the management regarding when it may be possible to return.

**Membership: Committee Member Harvey Janson** introduced us to **Michael Miller**, whose application for membership was approved by voice vote. Harvey provided Mike with the required information and orientation. Welcome aboard, Mike!

**Secretary's Report: Secretary Norman Ainbinder** read the minutes of the Dec 20<sup>th</sup> meeting, which were approved without change.

**Glad and Sad: Harvey Tobolsky** notified us of the following:

Condolences are extended to Joe Doniger's wife, Bonnie, whose father, **Robert Summerfield**, passed away on December 25<sup>th</sup>. The funeral was held on December 28<sup>th</sup> at Stanetsky Memorial Chapel, with an interment at Sharon Memorial Park. Shiva was held on the 28<sup>th</sup> immediately following the burial. Donations in memory of Robert may be directed to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital. Robert was formerly a Club member.

Condolences are also extended to Robert Abbott's wife, Ruth, whose brother, **Richard Marcus**, passed away on December 24<sup>th</sup>. The Funeral will be on December 29<sup>th</sup> at Temple Sinai, and the internment at Sharon Memorial Park. Shiva will be observed at the home of Ruth and Robert Abbott. Richard was formerly a Club member.

Our condolences were sent to the family of former member **Sonny Shapiro** who passed away on December 20<sup>th</sup>. Services were held at Schlossberg's Chapel in Canton on December 26<sup>th</sup> with interment at Sharon Memorial Park.

Mazel Tov to Jerry and Vicki Lemkin, who will celebrate their 54<sup>th</sup> anniversary on December 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Investment Club: Neil Nager** invited any interested members to join the group at their regular monthly meeting today downstairs in the Senior Center immediately following this meeting.

**Secretary Norman Ainbinder** provided members with an update on the problem of letter fishing and check washing from USPS mailboxes in the Boston area. He cited two articles from the Boston Globe and a recent TV news story. Local police recommend that personal checks bearing your signature be mailed inside your town Post Office. Checks should be kept in your curbside mailbox for the mail carrier to pick up from you. Police also mentioned that they feel that some of the thefts are being perpetrated by persons having keys to the blue mailboxes. USPS needs a sound system of accounting for the keys.

**Jim Maltz** mentioned that he and some friends plan to take a Norwegian Line **Cruise to Bermuda** on **June 22<sup>nd</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup>**. Please get in touch with him for details and he, in turn, can refer you directly to the booking agent.

**Speakers Committee: Chairman Bob Soffer** remarked during his introduction that this is a rare instance where a club member is introducing a family member, and in this case, his son, as our guest speaker. Bob then introduced Barry Clayman. In Barry's introduction, he thanked Bob for giving him the honor of presenting his son, Michael. Barry then thanked me and my wife, Annette, for having the insight to recommend Michael as a guest speaker. Barry also wanted to make everyone aware that Michael has poured everything into HHC Publishing, which has made it a successful enterprise for twenty-six years. Michael started as a buyer for Costco and eventually became the owner and President of HHC Publishing. Michael stated that through HHC Publishing, he produces a bi-monthly newsletter, Warehouse Club Focus, which he said he distributes to multiple hundreds of companies that sell their products to the warehouse clubs; the clubs include BJ's, Costco, Sam's, and PriceSmart, or have other involvements with the clubs, such as packing the products sold to the clubs and HR companies for employment opportunities with the clubs. He said he gathers information for the newsletter by visiting the club locations throughout the United States, the Caribbean, and South America. Michael stated that he writes about each store location he has recently seen, which includes the products they are currently selling in the store and how they compare with the other clubs by product and price, by showing pictures of the products and providing graphs of years of selling the various products. He also analysis store and company sales throughout the year. And analyze each club's financials once a year. Michael relayed that he conducts seminars for businesses that want to sell their products to the clubs. Michael provided us with a history of the club business and how it evolved into the market force they are today. Members found his information highly informative because of the number of questions they asked during his presentation, to which Michael responded as quickly as they were asked.

**Raffle:** There were two winners.

**The next meeting** will be on January 3<sup>rd</sup>. No monthly breakfast in January.

Respectfully submitted,

Norman Ainbinder, Secretary