



# MONTHLY

## MEN ENJOYING LEISURE

About MEL, Melmen and their activities



JULY / AUGUST 2023

### FROM THE PRESIDENT

By the time you read this, I will have been re-elected to the Board, or not. In either case, it has been a great privilege to serve as the first president of the newly structured Men Enjoying Leisure, NFP.

This year was one of great success as we returned to participating live in so many old activities. And we added new activities and wonderful special events that kept us continually engaged. And, as you know, even more are on the way. A special thanks to Bruce Edelson for spearheading our efforts.

As a Board, we focused our attention on unity and team building. I think we got close but fell a bit short. It wasn't for lack of trying. While change for change sake was not and should not in itself be an objective, some things were broken and needed fixing – particularly our web page and our email system. Some work still needs to be done, but I'm confident the new Board will address these areas with input from our members.

In 2022/23 we lost members to death and illness. They will all truly be missed. Others of our members are no longer able to attend activities or events. I know this is hard on them, and we will always cherish their participation.

On the brighter side, many of the 16 new members have gotten engaged in several activities and events. To them I say there are many more ways to get involved in MEL. Be a sponsor. Be a leader. Come to meetings. Speak your mind.

MEL has inspired, nourished, and entertained me since I first joined in 2016. It has been and will continue to be my home away from home.

Gary Salit

### JULY MEL PHOTO OF THE MONTH REMEMBRANCE

- By Michel Weiner



Taken on July 18, 2023, this is the back of 6538 North Francisco in Rogers Park. I love architecture--especial older buildings--and this is where I grew up. Being there sparked wonderful memories of my mom as she walked up and down three flights of stairs to do laundry in the basement. Memories of family and great friends that I will never forget.

### RUMMIKUB - MEL's Newest Regular Activity

- By Aaron Hershinow

Rummikub is a tile-based game that is like Rummy in that scoring results from accumulating consecutive runs, e.g., 2, 3, 4, 5, of the same suit and melds, e.g., three or more of the same value such as three sevens. Like Mar-Jong, the tiles are played in the center and all players can use tiles played by other players. It was invented over 80 years ago by Ephraim Hertzano in Romania after card-playing was outlawed under the then Communist regime. The family moved to Israel in the 1940s after WWII and he devoted himself to developing and promoting the game, which now is popular around the world.

On July 17, 12 Melmen met at Portillo's to explore whether Rummikub could be a regular MEL activity. It was a hit and we will be doing it again on 8/27/23—again at Portillo's.

Rummikub—easy to learn, fun to play, perfect for MEL...and you!



# MEL ROCKS OUT WITH BUDDY HOLLY!

- By Bill Gurolnick and Gerry Linda



On June 29, Melmen and their dates dined and then saw the musical life story of Buddy Holly at Marriott Lincolnshire. The Holly songbook was the sound of our youth for many Melmen. To name a few of his hits: **It's So Easy, That'll Be the Day, Not Fade Away, Peggy Sue, True Love Ways, Words of Love, Maybe Baby.** Of course, he, The Big Bopper and Richie Valens all perished in the fateful plane crash on "the day the music died." The show was all music, all the time and we all left with a smile on our faces.

Thanks to Walt Brown and Bruce Edleson for making the arrangements.



# MEL AND THE DIAL OF DESTINY

Well, actually it was Indiana Jones and the Dial of Destiny, and MEL was at Northbrook Court on July 6 in force—16 strong. The movie was enjoyable, not a masterpiece, but any time Melmen gather to have fun is worthy of note. The movie was followed by dinner (of course) at California Pizza Kitchen. Thank you, Ed Margulies and Gerry Linda, our MEL Movie facilitators.



### PICKLEBALL AND MEL - *By Aaron Hershinow*



Pickleball is the fastest growing sport in America; in fact, it may be the fastest growing sport in history. Among the reasons why are that pickleball is a really fun sport and it is relatively easy to become reasonably competent (not proficient, mind you).

The court is small so it's not a huge amount of work, but it's still good exercise. We also have time to BS with other MEL guys. There are also non-MEL guys, who you can help me recruit. You get the e-mails, so probably might know we play on Tuesday mornings from 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM at Chamber Park in Wheeling. Thursday games are at Flick Park in Glenview, also from 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM.

We could use more guys, so come on out and join us. Learn why the sport is so popular; enjoy the fun, exercise and, especially, time to BS.

### SEPTEMBER SPEAKER BIOGRAPHY

**Allan Kaufman** is a Vietnam Air Force veteran and retired as the Regional Director of Environmental Health and Safety for Quest Diagnostics. He has spoken to various groups including the American Society of Safety Professionals, the North Shore Senior Center, the National Safety Council and other organizations. Under then Secretary of Transportation, Ray LaHood, he co-chaired a committee on Distracted Driving. He was a volunteer diver at Shedd Aquarium for 16 years and has been a volunteer at Chicago Botanical Gardens.

Allan's presentation in September will be about the 40 brave heroes who stopped Flight 93, and the Memorial National Monument created near Shanksville, PA to honor them.

### LET'S TALK SPORTS - *By Bruce Edleson*

Are you a sports enthusiast? If so, our discussion group is right up your alley. We meet about every 60 days. Our topics include the Bulls, Blackhawks, Bears, White Sox and Cubs. A sorry bunch, indeed! In the past we've also discussed soccer, the Sky, and the NCAA basketball tournament. World Series and Super Bowl predictions are always in the mix and last year we had seven members correctly pick the Chiefs to win it all.

Our usual location is The Grill House on Dundee Rd. We meet at 11:00 AM, talk, have lunch and finish about 1:30-2:00. Our next date will be the end of September. At that time we will pick our World Series winner and discuss the first few Bears' games.

Watch your email for the invite. And then come join us!

### HAIL TO THE QUEEN - *By Buddy Kalish*



Unable to attend were: Neal & Susie London, Alan & Bobbie Newman, Joel & Bobbie Meisles, Robert & Nancy Bloom, Stan & Carol Derdiger



Approximately 15 Melmen meet every Wednesday at D'Agostino's to play the game you played in college-- "HEARTS."

If you curse, you will fit right in with our group. Yes, you can give the "Queen of Spades-The Bitch" to your favorite Melman and he will likely swear at you. However, it's all about the camaraderie and friendship we enjoy with each other.

Once a year we have our Hearts Dinner with our spouse, SO or DP. Our dinner this year was July 18th at D'Agostino's in

their private dining room where we enjoyed good food and drink. Afterwards, we introduced our better halves and there was a drawing for several restaurant gift certificates. Stan Ascher also presented a special gift to Bruce Edelson for his outstanding work in behalf of MEL.

Attending this year's dinner were: Bruce and Jan Edelson, Don and Linda Brooks, Marc and Cindy Topel, Bob Silver and Ethel Kurland, Jack and Ellen Meyers, Larry and Laurie Krupp, Jerry and Harlie Ezgur, Bob Shuman and Linda Karm, Buddy Kalish and Joanne Kruger, and Stan and Merle Ascher.

What a wonderful way to enjoy MEL fellowship.

### MELTONES RECENT AND FUTURE ACTIVITY:

<b>JUNE</b>	9	Center
	16	The VI
	23	Tamarisk
<b>JULY</b>	21	Rehearsal
	28	The Lodge
<b>AUGUST</b>	11	House of Welcome
	18	Brookdale-Vernon Hills
	25	Brookdale-Northbrook
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>	8	Brookdale-Hawthorne VH

## AUGUST MEL MONTHLY CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
		AARON HOFFMAN'S B'DAY JACK SANDER'S B'DAY 9:30 AM - 11:00 PM MORNING WALK 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM CANASTA 11:00 AM - 8:30 PM MEL -GEL- SEL- SAM -HOGS GOLF OUTING	BUDDY KALISH'S B'DAY 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM LINEBALL 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM HEARTS GAME 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM WATER VOLLEYBALL	ARGONNE NAT'L LAB TOUR & LUNCH	10:00 AM - 12:00 PM MEL MONTHLY MEETING 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM BRIDGE	
<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
	9:00 AM - 11:30 PM BIKE RIDE 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM MEL MONTHLY BREAKFAST 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM PLAY POOL	9:30 AM - 11:00 PM MORNING WALK 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM BOOK CLUB	MIKE WEINER'S B'DAY 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM LINEBALL 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM HEARTS GAME 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM WATER VOLLEYBALL	BOB STEIN'S B'DAY	MELTONES AT THE HOUSE OF WELCOME 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM BRIDGE	MARV BERMAN'S B'DAY
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
MIKE LERNER'S B'DAY	9:00 AM - 11:30 PM BIKE RIDE 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM GIN RUMMY 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM PLAY POOL	GENE CHAIKEN'S B'DAY 9:30 AM - 11:00 PM MORNING WALK 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM CANASTA	9:30 AM - 12:00 PM LINEBALL 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM HEARTS GAME 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM WATER VOLLEYBALL		MELTONES AT BROOK- DALE-VERNON HILLS 10:30 AM - 3:00 PM 5 FAMILIES BOWLING & LUNCH 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM BRIDGE	
<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
	9:00 AM - 11:30 PM BIKE RIDE 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM PLAY POOL 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB	9:30 AM - 11:00 PM MORNING WALK 10:30 AM - 2:00 PM MINI GOLF	9:30 AM - 12:00 PM LINEBALL 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM HEARTS GAME 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM WATER VOLLEYBALL 5:00 PM - 11:00 PM MEL ANNUAL DINNER	DAVID SILVER'S B'DAY IRWIN FRIEDMAN JACK MAYER	MELTONES AT BROOK- DALE-NORTHBROOK MICHAEL GOLDEN'S B'DAY 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM BRIDGE	
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>		
	MICKEY MELL'S B'DAY 9:00 AM - 11:30 PM BIKE RIDE 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM POKER 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM PLAY POOL	9:30 AM - 11:00 PM MORNING WALK 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM MEL.BOD MEETING	9:30 AM - 12:00 PM LINEBALL 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM HEARTS GAME 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM WATER VOLLEYBALL	10:00 AM - 3:00 PM CURRENT EVENTS DIS- CUSSION 11:30 AM - 3:00 PM MEL MONTHLY LUNCH		

### EVENT SCHEDULE AUGUST - DECEMBER

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| <p><b>Aug</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1</b> Annual Golf outing Chevy Chase (contact Jerry Ezgur)</li> <li><b>3</b> Argonne National Lab tour and lunch (contact Bob Abrams)</li> <li><b>4</b> MEL monthly meeting 9am at the Temple</li> <li><b>7</b> MEL monthly breakfast 9am Demetri's restaurant on Lake Cook Rd. (contact Jack Meyers)</li> <li><b>14</b> Gin Rummy 11am D'Agostino's in Wheeling</li> <li><b>21</b> Rummikub 11am Portillo's in Deerfield (contact Stan Ascher)</li> <li><b>22</b> Mini Golf 10:30 Highland Park Golf Learning Center on RT41 near Target</li> <li><b>23</b> MEL annual dinner 5PM Chevy Chase</li> <li><b>28</b> Poker 11am D'Agostino's in Wheeling</li> <li><b>31</b> MEL monthly lunch 11:30 McAlister's Deerfield</li> </ul> <p><b>Sept</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1</b> MEL monthly meeting 9am at the temple</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>5</b> MEL monthly breakfast 9am Demetri's restaurant on Lake Cook Rd.<br/>(MOVED TO TUESDAY BECAUSE OF LABOR DAY)<br/>(Contact Jack Meyers)</li> <li><b>8</b> MEL annual CUBS game</li> <li><b>11</b> Gin Rummy 11am D'Agostino's in Wheeling</li> <li><b>18</b> Poker 11am D'Agostino's in Wheeling<br/>(MOVED TO THIS DATE BECAUSE OF HOLIDAY)</li> <li><b>26</b> Let's Talk Sports 11:30am Grill House on Dundee Rd.</li> <li><b>28</b> MEL monthly lunch 11:30 McAlister's Deerfield</li> </ul> <p><b>Oct</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>16</b> Harley Davidson Museum tour in Milwaukee (details soon)</li> </ul> <p><b>Dec</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>5</b> MEL informal couples holiday dinner (location TBD by attendees number) (details soon)</li> </ul> |
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