

Stonebridge Men's Club

Don Marino

On behalf of the Stonebridge Men's Club, I would like to wish our neighbors and their families a happy and healthy New Year. I hope that you all enjoyed a very pleasant and safe holiday season. As we enter a new year, it is a good time to reflect on what the Men's Club has accomplished over this past year. During the course of 2025, the Men's Club held monthly programs for its members with speakers on a variety of topics which included famous entertainers, sports personalities, historians and a visit from Mayor Dalina. We also held outings to a minor league baseball game and an event at Monmouth Park Racetrack in support of the Esophageal Cancer Education Foundation.

As much as we enjoyed these events, our most rewarding activities were our fundraising efforts which included a charity golf outing, holiday chocolate purchases, weekend breakfasts and 50-50 raffles. These efforts produced over \$10,000 which has been donated to various local and national charities as well as high school scholarships. We are thankful for the many contributors that helped make our fundraising efforts so successful.

The Men's Club ended 2025 by hosting our annual Holiday Party for its members on December 11. It was a great evening with many members in attendance. The members enjoyed a variety of delicious Italian foods from Romeo's of Jamesburg. The evening was topped off with video clips of comedy teams from the past, notably Laurel & Hardy, Martin & Lewis and the Three Stooges, bringing back fond memories of our youth. It was a terrific evening of food, friends, and laughter.

As we enter 2026, our first meeting on January 26 will feature the return of Jimmy Scalia with a presentation on The Italian Songbook. Jimmy had previously presented and shared insight into famous musical artists from New Jersey as well as Bobby Darin. Also returning on February 23 is historian James Calaski whose presentation on the famous Hindenburg Disaster which took place in Lakehurst, New Jersey in 1937 was outstanding. This year his topic is Germany's Shadow War: Spies, Sabotage, and The American Homefront. I am sure that both events will capture our attention and interest. Be on the lookout for emails and postings on the Clubhouse monitor regarding these and the many other events planned for 2026.

Our sincere thanks to Charlie Zeichner and the Activities Committee for their efforts in putting together these events, and to Fred Block for creating the advertisements that are posted. If you wish to enjoy memorable events and activities like these, it's easy to join. Simply drop off a \$30 check for dues in the Men's Club mailbox at the Clubhouse. Payment can also conveniently be made via Venmo at @Stonebridge-MensClub. All new members will receive a Men's Club t-shirt. For more information, please visit our website at www.stonebridgemensclub.com. We are always looking for members to volunteer on our board and committees. Anyone wishing to learn more can contact me personally at president@stonebridgemensclub.com.



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