

D A R I E N
SMA
Senior Men's Association

Volume 29, Number 2

November-December 2005

NEWSLETTER



Good times with the SMA

photograph by Frank Johnson

Do you know where this picture was taken? It is some of our members enjoying themselves at the summer Brunch Cruise. This is a good example of the fun times arranged by our SMA Special Events Committee, who's events are open to all our members, wives and guests.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Looking at the last issue of the Newsletter, I am very impressed with the new format, which now includes photographs. Stan Pinover and Herm Eckrich are off to a great start and those of us who contribute to each issue need to support them with timely and quality input.

Our membership continues to remain at high levels as we have had several new members join us already this year. All of us need to continue to be recruiters for SMA in order to maintain our full membership as the older

members drop out. Please invite your friends, neighbors and associates to attend a meeting, participate in a special event or activity and become new members.

As we head into the winter season, don't forget the weather closing routine: If the Darien schools are closed, our meeting is cancelled. Listen to the local TV and radio stations, which always make these announcements; look inside the front cover of the directory for radio stations. If in doubt, call the board member contact listed for your section of the alphabet as shown in the SMA phone bank at the top of the next page.

Member's Last Name	Officer/Director	Phone#
Aa-Bi	Bill Winship	655-3530
Bj-Ca	Joe Holmes	838-8744
Cb-De	Frank Johnson	323-2475
Df-Fa	Bob Mitchell	831-0676
Fb-Gi	Bill Cox	655-2072
Gj-He	Dave Mace	655-7555
Hf-Jo	Hal Simpson	655-0497
Jp-La	Pete Scull	838-9126
Lb-Mi	Bob Woods	655-9845
Mj-Oz	Chuck Forman	655-4189
Pa-Ra	Bill Atkinson	655-6557
Rb-Rz	Tom Thompson	655-4725
Sa-Sm	Kent Haydock	655-7371
Sm-Tz	Sandy McDonald	655-9193
Un-Zz	Bob Miller	838-1820

In addition we will ask Frank Kemp to send an e-mail message broadcast to everyone whose e-mail address is in our database advising of the closing. In this regard please keep Frank updated on any changes or additions to your e-mail address.

Our Program and Special Events Committees are doing their usual outstanding job in scheduling speakers for each meeting and organizing special event trips. Those who attended the Moodus Jazz Festival this summer and the Brunch Cruise in August all raved about

having a fun time. Even the West Point football trip had some enjoyable moments in spite of the all day rain.

In addition to the members of the above two committees, I would like to again thank all of the officers, board members, committee members, activity representatives, and all those including many behind the scenes who make our organization work and keep it alive and well.

For those who have not paid their dues for the new season (90 year olds excepted), please do so by November 1st so that we can get the new directory published. Contact: Chick Scribner.

I am looking forward to seeing many of you at our upcoming Christmas Luncheon as well as our weekly meetings.

. --*Bill Donalds.*

PROGRAMS

Wednesday, November 2, 2005

ADVENTURE ON THE HIGH SEAS

Charles Weiner is an accomplished offshore sailor. He will take us on his Trans-Atlantic adventure where his sailboat was dismantled. All ended well as you will hear and see as he had on board a professional photographer to record the proceedings.

*Suggested by Don Miller
Arranged by Bob Baker*

Wednesday, November 9, 2005

VETERANS DAY PROGRAM

George Walsh and Norm Guimond will speak to us about their adventures as pilots serving our country. George was the Grand Marshall of this year's Memorial Day Parade. He flew Dive Bombers off the U.S.S. Ticonderoga during World War II and will have some interesting incidents to relate. Norm was a Naval Aviator who flew 70 missions in Viet Nam. He flew the A-6 Intruder at the time which was the

Navy's most sophisticated, all-weather, medium attack, carrier based bomber. Upon returning from Viet Nam he joined other squadrons and become an A-6 training instructor.

Suggested and Arranged by Robert Mitchell

Wednesday, November 16, 2005

OPERA'S BATTLE OF THE SEXES

Dr. Jerome R. Schulster, Professor of Psychology at the University of Connecticut at Stamford will entertain us with excerpts from several operas. Since the battle of the sexes is the subject of some of the greatest works of literature, it's not surprising to find it a central theme in the great operatic comedies. Dr. Schulster's talk discusses and illustrates some of the assaults and defenses of this eternal battle as they are set by the world's most famous opera composers.

Arranged by Stan Pinover

Wednesday, November 23, 2005

"IS DARIEN A DEMOCRACY"

The classic definition of a democracy is that "everyone can vote". But is it a democracy when there is almost no choice among candidates to vote for as in Darien? The consequences of this limitation on our town government, as times have changed, are reviewed by "Mac" Marshman who has some practical remedies to suggest.

Arranged by Frank Johnson

Wednesday, November 30 2005

"WHAT'S NEW IN CARDIOLOGY"

Dr. Steven Horowitz will visit us to discuss new trends in cardiology and the risk factors for heart disease. As the current Director of Cardiology at the Stamford Hospital and past Chief of the Cardiology at Beth Israel Medical

Center in New York City, he has the experience to bring us up-to-date.

Arranged by Frank Johnson

Wednesday, December 7 2005

"A TIME FOR HEROES"

Robert Dilenschneider, author of this recently published book, will explore the dimensions of heroism. He begins with the history from Hercules and the ancient Greeks to September 11 and beyond, and then, through in-depth interviews with leaders of today, he discusses their heroes or heroines and how they have affected the lives of many.

Arranged by Frank Johnson

Wednesday, December 14, 2005

THE BLUE NOTES

This popular twenty-five-member group of women musically entertains various nursing homes and centers around Fairfield County. They will present to us a songfest in four part harmony centered around the holiday season.

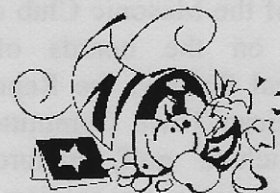
Arranged by Frank Johnson

Wednesday, December 21, 2005

NO MEETING-MERRY CHRISTMAS

Wednesday, December 28, 2005

NO MEETING_HAPPY NEW YEAR



SMA – MEMBERSHIP REPORT

As of the October 12th meeting, our membership total was 275. This leaves us with 15 openings on the Darien list only. Darien applications are processed as soon as they are received while out-of-towners go on the waiting list.

We are still collecting dues for the year 2006. Reminder post cards were mailed to 73 members on October 2nd. Near the end of the month we will use phone calls to contact those members who still have not remitted their dues. So far this fall we have taken in five new members and one past member was reinstated. Four members have resigned. We welcome the following new members:

William Ross was born in 1937 and grew up in Winchester, Massachusetts. After high school he went to MIT graduating in 1959. His business career included working for Electrolux and then Pitney Bowes. Bill and his wife Jan have three children and nine grand children. After many years in Darien they now reside in Norwalk. They also spend time in their town house on Cape Cod and other property in Jupiter, Florida.

Ken Polett was raised in Westchester County, New York and moved with his wife, Karen to Darien in 1976. He graduated from Boston College with an AB Degree in Teaching and also earned an MS Degree in Marine Biology from the University of Bridgeport. He retired after 35 years of teaching in the Blind Brook-Rye School District in Rye, N.Y. He was the Science Coordinator for the school district. He and his wife have traveled extensively and enjoy his Harley Davidson motorcycle and golf together. They belong to the Country Club of Darien. Ken is a member and Past Master of Ivanhoe Lodge and A. M. #107 of Darien and the current President of the Masonic Club of Darien, Inc. He has been on the boards of the Middlesex Genealogical Society, the Republican Club, and the Republican Town Committee of Darien. His hobbies include golf, motorcycle riding and collecting miniature toy soldiers.

Frank A. Rosenberry was born in 1937 and grew up on his father's dairy farm in Eastern Pennsylvania. He attended a small Quaker grade school and went to high school in Westchester. He graduated with the class of 1959 from Princeton University. After a tour of duty in the military, The Simmons Company, a manufacturer of home and commercial furnishings, hired him. He was elected President of the firm in 1977. The Simmons Company was purchased by Gulf and Western Industries where Frank was made a Division Manager. After three years he left for a position at C. R. Gibson of Norwalk, Ct. and eventually became President and COO. In 1995 with the sale of Gibson he became involved with the AMSCAM Company and the AMCAL Company. and retired in 2003. Frank was married to his wife, Elizabeth, on News Years Eve in 1960. They moved to Darien in 1963. They have two married daughters and two granddaughters. Frank lists gardening as his favorite hobby.

James A. Hartzler was introduced to the Darien SMA when he was our guest speaker in March this year. The subject of his talk was No Child Left Behind. Jim graduated from DePauw University with BA degrees in History, Philosophy and Political Science and earned a MA in Communications from Michigan State University. He then attended Columbia University to learn Film Making. Due to his expertise in the field he spent three years in the US Army directing motion picture training films. He spent his career as a TT/Video writer, director and producer. He worked for Reeves Communication Corp. After living in Darien for fifteen years, Jim and his wife, Linda, moved to Norwalk. They raised three children and now have four grandchildren. He is a member of the Middlesex Swim and Tennis Club and his hobbies are video production, tennis, golf and bowling.

Also, we welcome back former member **Donald Von Wedel** who has been reinstated as a member.

-- *Chick Scribner*

SMA SPECIAL EVENTS 2004/5

GOODSPEED OPERA HOUSE TRIP

On Friday SEPTEMBER 16TH, a bus load of SMA members, spouses and guests went to East Haddam, Connecticut to the Goodspeed Opera House to see the play *The Boyfriend*. This golden oldie was directed by Julie Andrews who started her Broadway Career in *The Boyfriend*. Many of the SMA group thought that this was one of the best plays that they have ever seen at the Goodspeed Opera Theater. The costumes, the music, and the dancing kept our eyes glued to the stage. We had a delicious lunch at the old Gelston House which is adjacent to the theater and overlooks the Connecticut River. A trip to this showplace should be a must for all SMA members as the musicals are consistently good and are of Broadway caliber. The trip home took less than one and a half hours and we all felt that it was a day well spent and look forward to a return visit.

WEST POINT TRIP

On Saturday October 8, despite the downpour of heavy rain, 62 brave members and guests ventured to West Point for a truly fine buffet lunch at the Thayer Hotel, then on to Michie Stadium to watch the United States Military Academy's Black Knights football team battle Central Michigan. For a time it seemed like Army might finally win the game as they went ahead 10 to 7 going into the 4th quarter but then Central Michigan scored a second touchdown leading to a 14-10 defeat for Army. We dried out a bit at the Kenna Sports Exhibit in Kimsey Hall where we were able to have a drink and enjoy some fine cheese, crackers and sweets. All those hearty individuals who made this a fun event get a special "Good Sports" award.

N Y BOTANICAL GARDENS TRIP

On Saturday, November 19, we have planned a special trip to the N.Y. Botanical Garden in the Bronx for the Holiday Train Show. See New York as you have never seen it before. Over 100 N.Y. City landmarks—from the Statue of Liberty to Radio City Music Hall and the 1923 Yankee Stadium made entirely from plants like berries, gourds, pinecones, and twigs. Large gauge trains and trolleys zip through this magical scene, disappearing into tunnels and crossing bridges high overhead. We will enjoy a private tour of the Conservatory, and (weather permitting) ride on a narrated tram tour of the Garden grounds. The Garden Shop will be open for Christmas gift shopping. A voucher for lunch or brunch is included. Don't miss this unique holiday experience! Sign up now. \$45/ per person. Checks made out to DCA/SMA. Contact person: Wayne Whitney 655-9467.

SAVE THE DATE

The Annual SMA Christmas Luncheon will be held at the Country Club of Darien on Thursday December 8. Further details will be announced at our meetings or call Frank Johnson at 323-2475.

-- *J. Wayne Whitney, Chairman*

SMA CARES

We regret to report the death of Ralph "Pete" Sickels on Friday October 14 at the early age of 76. SMA members will remember the outstanding job Pete did when he was Chairman of the Special Events Committee for several years. He and his wife Bobbi co hosted many of these events. Pete was a member of the SMA since May 1994. The Darien SMA was one of three organizations that were recommended by Pete's family for memorial donations.

-- *Don Brown, Chairman*