

NEWSLETTER



SMA's Speaker Program

photograph by Bill Swett

Darren Oustafine, Assistant Director of Public Works (center) with SMA's Bob Baker (left) & Frank Johnson (right)

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It seems to me that SMA is doing quite well these days.

As I look back it is hard to believe that our move to the DCA from the YMCA was more than three years ago as we enjoy the spacious comfort and the facilities in our new location. The excellent space as well as the fine support from the DCA staff is making life easier for us in many respects.

In addition, we have in place an outstanding group of members who are fulfilling our officer and director assignments, chairing and staffing of our various committees and coordinating our recreational activities.

Through the efforts of our program and special events committees, we have had good speakers at our weekly meetings, and we have had a lot of fun on our special events trips. Participation in most of our recreational activities is on the increase.

Our membership remains at a high level but we have openings for both Darien and Out-of-towners. In that regard we all need to be recruiters for SMA so we continue to bring in new members to replace those who are no longer able to participate or who have moved elsewhere. Ask a friend to attend a weekly meeting, participate in an activity or sign up for a special events trip.

We urge all members to get involved, both within the SMA as a committee member or participant in a recreational activity, as well as an outside volunteer in a community activity.

Our organization is dedicated, among other things, to good fellowship. In this regard all of us should always welcome new members at our weekly meetings or other occasions. Make it a point to introduce yourself to a new member or anyone who does not appear to know many people in the room. Don't always talk to someone you know, talk to someone you may not know.

With these few changes we can even further improve SMA. Regards to all,

Bill Donalds

PROGRAMS

Wednesday, March 1, 2006

STEW LEONARDS

Stew Leonard Jr., President and CEO of the store will be our guest speaker. He will pass on several entertaining and humorous antidotes about this store, established in 1840, as well as relating how the business has changed over the years.

Arranged by Frank Johnson

Wednesday, March 8, 2006

FUEL CELL RESEARCH – PRESENT AND FUTURE

Mr. Lee Strecker and a small team of Darien High School Students will show a Power Point Presentation of their award winning long term research project, which is finishing phase 2

and will soon begin phase 3. You will be amazed at the progress that has been made by this team.

Suggested by Stan van den Heuvel

Arranged by Bob Mitchell

Wednesday, March 15, 2006

FINE WINES

Nick Troilo – A wine collector and expert who writes a popular column for the Darien News Review entitled “From my Post Road Window View”, will present an interesting Discussion on fine wines.

Suggested by Dale Pollart

Arranged by Bob Mitchell

Wednesday, March 22, 2006

STAMFORD AND THE CIVIL WAR

Dr. Thomas Zoubek, President and Executive Director of the Stamford Historical Society and local teacher, will again visit us. His presentation this time will provide insights into Stamford's role in the Civil War.

Arranged by Frank Johnson

Wednesday, March 29, 2006

JOHN RYAN

State Representative John J. Ryan returns to give us his annual status report of our government Assembly in Hartford. John's presentations are always entertaining and pertinent.

Arranged by Bob Mitchell

Wednesday April 5, 2006

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

The Bruce Museum has an exciting exhibition on Benjamin Franklin covering his amazing life as a printer, a statesman, scientist, and Founding Father of our United States of America, an exhibit that should be seen by our citizens of all ages.

Arranged by Stan Pinover

Wednesday, April 12, 2006

WILLIAM TECUMSAH SHERMAN

Bill Hamlin who is the great-grand son of William Tecumseh Sherman will speak to us about the Civil War General's interesting life including his famous march through the south and his life beyond the Civil War. He will include some memorabilia of one of the most well known people of his generation.

Suggested by Kent Haydock

Arranged by Stan Pinover

Wednesday, April 19, 2006

PEABODY MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

Dr. Lucy Salazar, renowned authority on the Inca Empire, will discuss little known highlights of this most unique civilization in America. Dr. Salazar is currently Manager of the Peabody museum of Natural History at Yale University.

Arranged by Frank Johnson

Wednesday, April 26, 2006

Broadwater Energy Project

Today's speaker will be Mr. Joel Rinebold, Broadwater Energy, addressing the proposed LHG terminal in Long Island Sound. Sandy McDonald will provide some commentary

on the project, primarily relating to possible impact on navigation in the Sound.

Suggested by Charlie Goodyear

Arranged by Bob Baker

SMA - MEMBERSHIP REPORT

A recent study of the attendance records for the year 2005 shows that our average attendance for the year was 94 per meeting. The highest attendance at one meeting was 132, which happened twice (November 2 and November 9). The lowest occurred on March 9 with only 68 members in attendance. There were 26 members who did not attend a single meeting. Two of these now live in Florida and one lives in Maine. All three have paid their dues for 2006, as did most of the 26. Since we changed our meetings to Wednesday, a few find it a hardship to make the meetings but pay their dues every year.

Our membership so far this year is 281 with the addition of 2 new members on February 8th. There are openings for both Darien and out-of-town members.

We welcome the following new members:

Wilder D. Baker lives in Darien with his wife Vanda. He graduated from Yale University with a BA degree in Political Science. After a career in Advertising with Warwick Baker O'Neill he retired in 2002. He is now teaching and servicing as a consultant to small businesses. He is a member and past Chairman of the Board of the American Advertising Association, on the Advisory Board of the Business and Technological School of the Fashion Institute of Technology and various small business organizations.

Wilder is a member of Wee Burn Country Club and lists reading, tennis, business and opera as some of his hobbies.

Thomas Kellogg was born and raised in Waterbury, Connecticut. He and his wife Jane moved to Darien in 1962. Having lived here for

more than 40 years they recently moved to Norwalk. Tom and Jane are the parents of four children and eight grandchildren.

Tom graduated from Princeton University with a degree in History. He is a veteran of the United States Navy with service during the Korean War. His business affiliation was with J. P. Morgan where he served as Senior Vice President. He retired in 1995. He is a member of Wee Burn country Club.

Charles Weiner was born in Lawrence, Mass., grew up in Methuen, attended Phillips Academy and on to Amherst College from which he graduated in 1946. His first job was in Africa where he traveled most of the sub-Sahara countries for a small mining company. When Charlie returned to the U.S.A. he went to work for a small boat building operation in Nova Scotia. From then on, to this day, he has been involved in all aspects of international trade. He formed his own trading company in 1960.

Charlie has been a sailor since he was old enough to hold a pair of oars and learned how to row. The sea and sailing has been his sport and love all these years. He has owned a series of boats from a 41 foot yawl to his present 23 foot outboard, which he can handle and care for by himself.

Thomas Reifenheiser was born in 1935 in Bayside, N.Y. and graduated from high school in Floral Park, N.Y. in 1953. After high school Tom attended the University of Notre Dame and graduated from Hofstra University in 1958. In 1963 he graduated from Wharton/University of Pennsylvania with MBA degrees in Economics and Finance.

Upon completing his education Tom was employed by Chase Manhattan Bank in the banking and investment banking fields specializing in telecom, media and technologies. For the last 23 years with Chase he was Managing Director and Group Executive. He was also a Director of Cablevision Systems, Bethpage, N.Y.,

Lamar Advertising, Baton Rouge, La. and Mediacom in Middletown N.Y.

Tom and his wife Marianne live in Darien where they raised four children. He belongs to the Tokeneke Club, Innis Arden, Wee Burn and the University Club of New York. His hobbies are history, travel, golf and reading.

Michael F. Hoben was born in 1939. He first contacted the Darien SMA via an e-mail message to the Darien Community Association. This led to his joining us at the January 8 meeting. Mike and his wife are Darien residents. He graduated from Lehigh University with a BA degree, Arizona State with an MS degree and attended NYU. His business affiliation was with Union Carbide where he specialized in Investments. He retired in 2001.

He belongs to the Squadron-A Association, New York City, Wee Burn Country Club, Savcon Valley Country Club and the University Club of New York City.

He lists as his hobbies golf and chess.

SMA SPECIAL EVENTS

New York Philharmonic Rehearsal

Starting the Spring Season on March 16, Senior Men and their spouses and guests will visit Lincoln Center to attend an open rehearsal of the New York Philharmonic. Popular with classical music lovers, both New Canaan and Darien Senior Men's Associations will be attending this concert. The program features a Rossini Overture, Tchaikovsky's Symphony No.5 and Paganini's Violin Concerto No.1. We will be lunching at Savann Restaurant on the West Side, traveling to the City by Fjord motor Coach. Departure time from the DCA back parking lot is 7:30 am, and returning around 3:30pm. There are still a few reservations available at \$60 per person. Please contact Wayne Whitney at 655-9467 or John Podkowsky at 329-8181 if you wish to join us.

Mark Twain House & Museum

Mark your calendars for an April 20 trip to Mark Twain House & Museum in Hartford, Conn. This is a chance to step back to the Gilded Age during a guided tour of the 19 room Tiffany decorated mansion where Samuel Clemens created such classics as *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*, *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* and *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court*.

As a family man, Clemens built an elegant home of comfort and charm that became the birthplace of his artistic legacy. The family lived there from 1874-1891, a time when Twain traveled extensively, lost a fortune on a typesetting machine, and gave life to boys named Tom and Huck. Following the Tour, we will travel to Wallingford, to the Yankee Silversmith Restaurant, a "Connecticut Landmark for Fine Dining" for lunch amid the ambience of yesterday surrounded by beautiful antiques. The price: \$60 per person. Sign up at our Wednesday meeting or contact Bill Atkinson at 655-6557 or Wayne Whitney at 655-9467. Don't miss this One!

Wayne Whitney, Chairman Special Events

Books Wanted

The Association is going to try an experimental book exchange program beginning at its meeting of March 1, 2006, Members are urged to bring in books which they have enjoyed, but do not wish to retain on already crowded book shelves. The books will be available to members for the taking and need not be returned. A table will be set up in the corridor before each meeting and during the coffee break for the receipt and disbursing of the books. If books linger with no takers, or if our storage facilities become overtaxed, books will be donated to Book Aid, the Smith College Book Sale or other willing takers. As a last resort such books will be discarded. Suggestions or Comments about the program may

be given to Bill Atkinson who will oversee the project.

Bill Atkinson

NEWS ON THE VITAMIN FRONT

Women who no longer menstrate and all men do not need a vitamin formula with iron. Iron in the vitamin formula tends to cause constipation. Centrum Silver and now the new Theragran-M have no iron (The previously sold Theragran-M had iron.) The Theragran-M formula is now on the market, with or without iron, so look at the list of vitamins and minerals before you purchase. It is distributed exclusively by Walgreen Drug Store.

Sam Stevenson

EDITOR'S REQUEST

We are looking for your help! We would like to include newsworthy articles about our members in our newsletter, such as member's involvement in community affairs, honors awarded to one of our members, etc. We also would like to use more photos of our members, spouses and guests especially at our SMA Special Events. If you can contribute to the newsletter please contact Stan Pinover at 655-3227 or e-mail the information to lspnvr@aol.com. Thank you for your help.

Stan Pinover