

D A R I E N

SMA

Senior Men's Association

Volume 30, Number 1

September/October 2006

NEWSLETTER



SMA Officers and Directors for 2006-2007

photograph by: George Walsh

Front row, left to right: Kent Haydock, Director, Marc Thome, Secretary, Bill Winship, Second Vice President, Frank Johnson, President, Bob Mitchell, First Vice President, Bill Cox, Treasurer, Late Wayne Whitney, Director until his death, 2nd Row: All Directors, Bob Woods, Bill Bellis, John Ross Hamilton, Stan Pinover, Chuck Forman, Pete Scull, Chick Scribner, and Bill Atkinson.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Thank you for the honor and privilege of becoming your President for the 2006-2007 session.

Last year, under the leadership of Bill Donalds, we:

- increased our membership
- continued in our community projects

- developed interesting weekly programs
- expanded our social events to include two summer activities.

Unfortunately we lost Bill earlier this year along with several of our stalwarts and long term contributors....Wayne Whitney, Max Russell, Gerry Gallagher, and Stan the Citrus Man come to mind.

This leads me into the first of three points I want to bring up.

Our organization is getting chronologically older. Over 40 % of our members are over eighty and our average age is approaching that number. We now have some room for more members-both residents of Darien and non-residents. It is essential for you "younger" members to convince your friends that we are not a *senior group*, and to encourage them to join the SMA.

Second, although volunteerism in the SMA is not dead, most of the contributing time comes from the *Old Guard*. The officers, directors and committeemen-about 30 % of the membership-contribute almost 4,000 hours per year. Some of the newer members have offered to become part of this leadership group—Pete Scull. Joe Holmes, Bill Bellis, John Podowsky, Jim Harter, Frank Kemp, Marc Thorne, Dick Cutler, Bill Gray and Jim Armour are a few I can mention. However it will be necessary for the rest of our newer members also to step up and take over some more of this load.

Lastly, we as an organization owe "something" to the DCA. We have enjoyed four years at this wonderful facility for a very nominal cost. The best way to help out is to join their organization. Less than 1/3 of our membership, or their spouses, are now DCA members. I would like to see this increase to 2/3s during the fall months. To encourage this, an application to the DCA along with our 2006-07 renewal form, and explanatory letter, are included in this newsletter. If you have any questions please speak to me at the meeting or call me at home 323-2475

My deepest thanks to all of those who have given time to the SMA to make it an energetic and dynamic organization, and my appreciation, in advance, to those in the coming year who will jump in and be a part of the action to help it continue to be one.

Our weekly meetings start on Wednesday September 6.

My welcome to all, Frank Johnson

PROGRAMS

Wednesday September 6, 2006

A Streetcar Named Eternity

Julian Padowicz lived under Soviet occupation in Eastern Poland for 6 months at age seven. He and his mother escaped in dramatic fashion over the Carpathian Mountains in 1940. He came to the United States, received a degree from Colgate and served in the U. S. Air Force.

Arranged by Bob Mitchell

Wednesday September 13, 2006

Islam in France

Gil Dunham, a New Canaan SMA member, resides in France six months each year. He has lectured at the DCA on the Common Market and addressed us as well on the European Union. Gil will tell us about the Islamic movement in France and its implications for France's future.

Arranged by Bill Winship

Wednesday September 20, 2006

Innovative Approaches to Quality Care: The Patient Comes First

Jeff Cole, President of Norwalk Hospital, will speak on "Innovative Approaches to Healthcare". Mr. Cole holds a Master's degree in Public Health from the University of California at Berkeley and is a regular guest lecturer at the Harvard Graduate School of Public Health. He has brought many recent innovations to the Norwalk Hospital.

Suggested by Bob Ready

Arranged by Bob Mitchell

Wednesday September 27, 2006

Putting the Life Settlement Market to Work for You

Jim Pugliese, a Darien resident, is President of Life Options LLC. He will present a way for select seniors to benefit from today's leading financial and insurance programs.

Arranged by Bob Mitchell

Wednesday October 4, 2006

The Park Street Singers

For several years, we have been entertained by the harmony of **The Park Street Singers**. This year's show titled "**The Poets of Tin Pan Alley**" will bring a smile to your face and a song to your heart.

Arranged by Bob Mitchell

Wednesday October 11, 2006

Bias in the Media

Darien resident Al Briganti is currently the number two executive of the CBS News' **48 Hours Mystery**. He will share his thoughts on bias in the media.

Suggested by James Baker

Arranged by Stan Pinover

Wednesday October 18, 2006

Brian Williams, NBC Nightly News

Mr. Williams, anchor and managing editor of **NBC Nightly News**, will discuss what's going on in the world at this time. Mr. Williams is the nation's most watched news anchor.

Arranged by Frank Johnson

Wednesday October 25, 2006

The "Fair Tax Movement"

Bill Mallkristy, a local advocate for the "Fair Tax Movement" will discuss what the "fair tax" is and how it would affect all of us taxpayers. The "Fair Tax Movement" is growing nationally and is championed by many politicians.

Suggested by Ed Clarke

Arranged by Bill Winship

Wednesday November 1, 2006

The Revolutionary War

Historian Robert Berthelson, whom we have been fortunate to have previously, will present another of his exciting and informative slide shows on the country's "first war".

Arranged by Stan Pinover

SMA-MEMBERSHIP REPORT

The SMA membership at this time is 278. This includes three members admitted in May and June. There are openings for both Darien and out-of-town applicants.

Members are reminded that we will be collecting dues for the coming year starting now. Please check this newsletter for the dues form with all the information you need. Members who joined and paid dues between January and June of 2006 are not required to pay dues again this year. See Article X Section 3 of our Constitution.

We welcome the following new members:

George B. Cammann was born in New York City in 1926. He served in the U. S. Navy as a Medic Operating Room Technician from 1944 to 1946. He graduated from Cornell University in 1950 and while there was a member of the Crew serving as the coxswain. After graduation Pan Am

employed him in sales, working in Detroit, Chicago and NYC. In 1981 he left Pan Am and joined Northwest Airlines where he worked until 1992. He was a volunteer at International Executive Corps from 1992 to 2005 and currently volunteers at Norwalk Hospital. George and his wife Nancy have lived in Darien since 1959 and have 2 children and 5 grandchildren. They are members of Tokeneke Club. George's hobbies are watercolor painting, tennis and fly fishing.

Malcolm J. Edgerton was born in New York City in 1920. Following graduation from Yale with a BA in 1942 he joined the Navy and spent four years on destroyers in the Atlantic, Mediterranean and Pacific. He was acting Executive Officer at his termination. He attended NYU Law School graduating with his LLM in 1948. He then practiced Law at White & Case in New York and is now a semi-retired Partner. Malcolm and his wife Jane are proud parents of seven children and 14 grandchildren. He is active on various boards including Stamford Museum and Nature Center, Edwin Gould Services for Children and Families, Mabel Burchard Fisher Grant Foundation. He is a member of WeeBurn Country Club, Noroton Yacht Club and New York Yacht Club. He enjoys hiking, sailing, golf and travel.

David L. Kniffin comes to us from Wilton where he has lived for 32 years. He was born in 1941 in Baltimore, Md. He is a graduate of Yale and University of Pennsylvania with a BA in Economics and MBA in finance respectively. He specialized in investments and was affiliated with The Pension Boards of The United Church of Christ. Dave is a member of the Pickwick Society and is interested in bridge, chess and investments as club activities.

Chick Scribner, Chairman Membership Committee

SMA CARES

SMA best serves the membership when everyone is involved. Please let Jim Armour or Don Brown know when you learn that one of our members is ill or hospitalized, or if there is a death in the family. We can then prepare a card and keep the membership informed. Last but not least, be sure to sign the card that we have prepared. The more names on the card, the more the recipient enjoys receiving it.

We regret having to report the death of two of our long time members. Gerald Larocque passed away on July 30th. He will be remembered for his colorful story telling ability and his active participation in the SMA. He was 95 years old. Jim Tyson passed away on July 10 at his home at age 90. Jim led an amazing life and shared some of his knowledge and experiences as a speaker at SMA meetings

Don Brown, Chairman

SMA SPECIAL EVENTS—Fall 2006

Saturday, September 23, 2006

Goodspeed Opera House

Musical “Pippin” by composer of **Godspell & Wicked**. Lunch at Griswold Inn in Essex

October/November Event Open

Thursday, December 7, 2006 10:45 am to 3:00 pm

Annual Christmas Party—Country Club of Darien—Music by Joe Holmes and his Swing Band.

J. Podowsky, Chairman Special Events

MARK TWAIN HOUSE AND MUSEUM

On a perfect April 20th, thirty-two SMA members and guests set off for a day at the Mark Twain House and Museum in Hartford. We were accompanied by excellent guides who helped us to visualize Twain's life in a unique late 19th Century setting full of family memorabilia. A new museum next to the house includes interesting exhibits which help to put Twain's life into historical context. The museum features a film telling Twain's life story, his travels and his lesser-known social activism. After the visit the group enjoyed lunch in Wallingford's historic Yankee Silversmith Inn.

Bill Atkinson

BELMONT RACE TRACK

Belmont Race Track in Jamaica, Queens was the object of a May 18th trip for forty-seven SMA members and guests. Belmont provides a beautiful setting in which to watch horse racing. The Garden Terrace where we had reservations affords a good view of the track and lunch is served in a leisurely and friendly fashion. For newcomers to pari-mutual betting, Belmont provides many facilities for learning the process in a non-intimidating atmosphere. No one knows whether the SMA'ers beat the track or whether the reverse was the case; however rumor has it that Elizabeth Morehouse was a big winner.

Bill Atkinson

SENIOR WANDERERS

The 2006-2007 SMA Year will see the Senior Wanderers start off their sixth year of wandering by visiting Brooklyn's Coney Island, Brighton Beach, little Odessa and Sheepshead Bay.

Other prospective ramblings are walking down Broadway from 125th Street to wherever we find ourselves at approximately 3:00 pm, and on another day, resuming that walk, from the point of

discontinuance, down to The Battery; The Far East Village, starting in the Financial District through South Street Seaport, north along the East River and into the East Village; 125th Street, west from the RR Station, Harlem, Morningside Heights, St. John the Divine Cathedral and Columbia University; the Manhattan Bridge, DUMBO and Williamsburg; Tudor City, Murray Hill, Kip's Bay, Turtle Bay to Lenox Hill; up Fifth Avenue, the Museum Mile and over to Yorkville. Those journeys we miss this year will be carried over to the following year, along with more new sites.

The Wanderers welcome any and all personal itineraries. Help us enjoy the grand memories of your youth.

John Barston and Bill Bellis

SMA NEWSLETTER

Through the creative hard work of Stan Pinover, assisted by Herm Eckrich, a very high standard has been set. The two undersigned hope to be able to continue that tradition, and we will welcome suggestions and input from members, sent electronically to the two of us if possible.

Bill Gray, Producer & Martin Skala, Editor

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