

**D A R I E N**

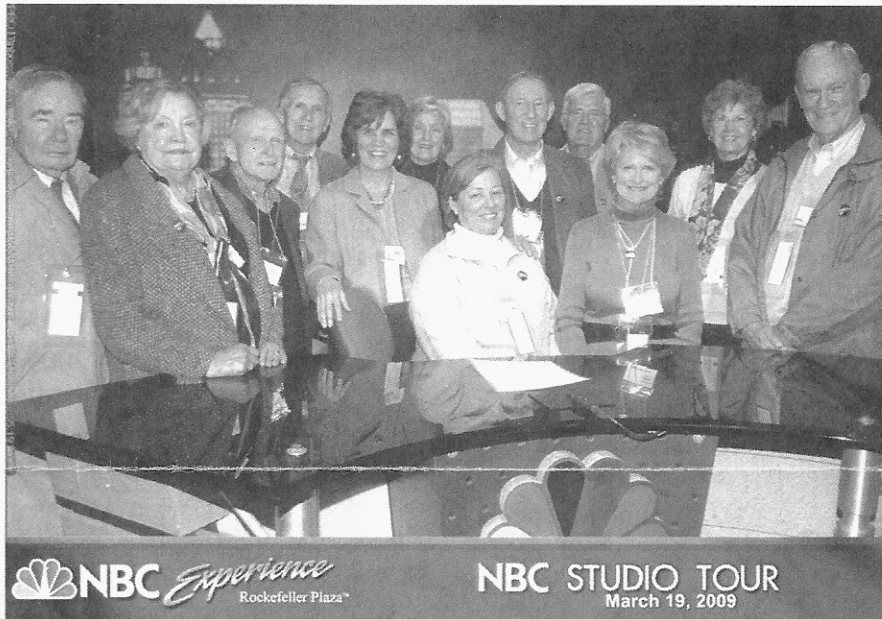
**SMA**

**Senior Men's Association**

Volume 32, Number 5

May-June 2009

# NEWSLETTER



**Great March 19 Radio City & NBC Studios Tour**

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

I owe a debt of gratitude to all our members who made this another great year for Darien SMA, our 31<sup>st</sup>.

We had wonderful programs each week thanks to Marc Thorne and his committee members. Our Social Events programs under the direction of Joe Sexton and his team were well attended and enjoyed by all who went on them. And all weekly activities continue to have strong participation. And a few suggestions of possible new programs were made.

Our financial position is strong; and our membership numbers are at an all time high in

spite of the passing of many members during the year. We have kept our rolls growing because each of you has brought new members to our organization.

. Please join us Monday May 25<sup>th</sup> to march in the Memorial Day Parade. We will meet at the Goodwives Shopping Center at 9:00 to 9:20AM at position 2-10 near the Darien Historical Society building. Cars will be available for those who choose not to walk the 1.25 mile route.

There will be two or possibly three SMA events this summer, a Bluefish baseball game in June, maybe a brunch cruise in July and

the annual SMA picnic in late August. Additional details on these events are in this newsletter and inserts. Lastly our Social Events Committee will have latest details or changes at our last meeting on Wednesday June 3, 2009.

My thanks to you all for a great year

Sincerely **Bill Winship**

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**PROGRAMS**

Wednesday May 6, 2009

**Osteoarthritis Treatment and Joint Replacement**

Dr. Michael Marks is chief of the Norwalk Hospital Medical Staff and orthopedic surgeon at Coastal Orthopedics. He will tell us about osteoarthritis and its treatment. Marks is internationally recognized for his leadership in orthopedic surgery and is a widely-known speaker on this topic.

*Arranged by Marc Thorne*

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Wednesday May 13, 2009

**Around the World, and a Tsunami**

Dick and Leslie York of Rowayton will recount and illustrate sailing around the world from October 2003 to May 2007 in their 46 foot sailing J boat. They encountered great people and beauty, but they also experienced the December 2004 tsunami off Thailand and avoided pirates in the Gulf of Aden.

*Suggested by Bill Close  
Arranged by Kirk Jewett*

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Wednesday May 20, 2009

**Memory Workx**

Eleanora Tornatore-Mikesh and Dr. de la Pena will tell us about research into treatment of memory-impaired older people. Ms. Tornatore-Mikesh is Executive Director of the Greens, a residence in Wilton that provides the Evergreen Program to support the memory-impaired. Dr. de la Pena has done research on this issue and will tell us of studies indicating there are treatments and activities that can enhance capabilities of those who are memory -impaired. We will participate in an exercise designed to improve memory.

*Arranged by Marc Thorne*

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Wednesday May 27, 2009

**Darien Property Tax at a Challenging Time**

Darien Assessor Tony Homicki has 30 years experience in several Connecticut cities and towns, and has been in Darien for five years. He will tell us about the challenges of property assessment at a time of unprecedented economic uncertainty. His office, with a consultant firm, has just completed our town's state-required assessment at a most difficult time. Tony will tell us how this is done and about Darien's tax relief program. He is happy to answer our questions.

*Suggested by Wally Pugh  
Arranged by Marc Thorne*

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Wednesday June 3, 2009

**Senior Songsters Show Their Stuff**

For our last meeting before summer break we will welcome our own SMA Senior Songsters. These 12 men rehearsing with leader Joe Holmes since November have entertained at

senior residences and clubs every week for the last two months. They will perform familiar favorites in four-part harmony –from barbershop to Broadway. We'll enjoy great entertainment.

*Suggested by Many*

*Arranged by Joe Holmes .*

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### MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Due to resignations and deceased members our membership has dropped a little. The total now stands at 278 with openings on both our Darien and out-of-town lists.

We welcome the following new members:

**Philip K. Meyer**, who was raised in Darien, graduated from Harvard College in 1961. He served as a lieutenant in the US Navy aboard a destroyer escort out of Newport, RI. After the Navy, he received an MBA from Harvard Business School in 1967.

After short stints at Container Corporation of America, IBM and a computer software startup, he settled into an eighteen year career as a partner of Eberstadt & Co. He principally served as an equity analyst covering the oilfield services and products industry. Since leaving Wall Street in 1988, he has been a private investor in publicly held companies in the energy, health science and technology sectors.

Phil served on the Republican Town Committee as well as the boards of A Better Chance in Darien and the Darien Historical Society. He also served on several boards of First Congregational Church. He enjoys golf, skiing, and working out at the YMCA. Other favorite activities are building plank-&-frame sailboat models and reading largely focusing on history.

**Douglas H. Wyse**, who was born in Cleveland, Ohio, graduated from Michigan State with a BA

in Marketing and Economics. After college he moved to New York City where he met his wife Linda. They recently celebrated 40 years of marriage and have two daughters and three grandchildren.

Doug's career has been in data processing as a systems analyst and project manager. Some of the companies he worked for were Merrill Lynch, Pfizer and, in Darien, Zotos International. After retiring, he leased the railroad station in Rowayton from the state, selling coffee and newspapers and running errands for commuters. He was a member of the Darien Lions Club for over 20 years and is a volunteer at Norwalk Hospital.

**Robert L. McGee** grew up in Norfolk, Virginia and graduated from Michigan State University with a degree in Business. Bob has been in the book business for 49 years, starting with the J.L. Hudson Co. of Detroit. He purchased books for 11 stores, traveled to the British Isles and Italy purchasing fine bindings, rare books, signed documents and antique maps. He moved to Darien in 1973, joining the Walden Book Co. to start a wholesale division. He has been a director of promotional sales at Crown Publishers, Random House, Running Press and Publications International, retiring for the 3<sup>rd</sup> time in January. His wife Carol directed the Noroton Presbyterian Church Nursery School for 20 years.

He served on the board of Directors of the American Book Sellers Association for 9 years. Besides serving on the Michigan State University Alumni Association's national board, he has been President of the MSU alumni clubs in Detroit, Grosse Point and greater New York City. Bob is an active member of the First Congregational Church of Darien. He has been married for 49 years and has three daughters and three grandchildren living in Connecticut.

**Roger S. Smith** grew up in Cleveland, and during his summers in High School, worked ranches from New Mexico to Wyoming. He graduated from the University of Montana at Missoula and

served in the US Navy at the U. S. Naval Base in New London, Connecticut.

After the navy, he worked for the food service company, Stouffers, at the “top of the sixes” 666 6th Avenue. The long hours, weekends and late night shifts convinced him to seek a day job. He joined BBDO Advertising in the early 1960s and remained there for many years as Director of Personnel. For the last dozen years he has been appraising real estate, primarily in Westchester.

With his wife Marcia, Roger moved to Rowayton from Mamaroneck about seven years ago. They have four children all living locally, and 16 Grandchildren. Besides skiing, Roger enjoys sailing on his son-in-law’s boat out of Norwalk Harbor.

**Robert Smith** was born on a small farm in Appalachia in Virginia. He decided at a very early age that he did not want to farm or live in a small town in the Appalachian Bible Belt. Bob attended Virginia Polytechnic Institute, now Virginia Tech, for a BSEE degree. After receiving his MSEE at the University of Kentucky, he moved to Raleigh, NC with IBM to work in Data Communications product development. While there he earned an MBA at Duke University.

After a temporary assignment in France, he relocated to IBM’s Large Systems Products Group in White Plains. The headquarters assignment led to other jobs including a data radio startup venture and systems integration marketing.

Bob left IBM in the late ‘80s on a buyout and started his own small consulting company. Most of his consulting engagements were in financial services for clients such as Chase, Citibank, and American Express. He recently returned to Darien from a three year assignment with Barclays Bank in London

**Chick Scribner, Membership Chair**

## CHANGING THE GUARD

Our Constitution requires that the Nominating Committee present a complete slate of proposed Officers and Directors for the ensuing membership year at the next to last regular meeting in April. Other nominations may be made by any member from the floor only at the next subsequent meeting. Election shall be by majority vote at the second regular meeting after the Nominating Committee has presented its proposed slate. At our April 22 meeting, this year’s Nominating Committee, chaired by Bob Mitchell and including Frank Johnson, Jim Hartzler, John Barston and Dale Pollart presented the following slate of Officers and Directors:

President and Director	Marc E. Thorne
First VP and Director	Richard K. Jewett
Second VP & Director	John W. Podkowsky
Secretary and Director	Peter B. Hallock
Asst. Secretary	Robert Ready
Treasurer and Director	Robert Ready
Asst. Treasurer	Austin R. Schraff
Other Directors:	
Immed. Past President	William M. Winship
Past President	Frank M. Johnson
Past President	Robert S. Mitchell
Directors At Large:	
First Term	John J. Barston
“	Harry I Emmons
“	John Schlactenhafen
Second Term	William F. Close
“	Thomas I. Dunn
“”	Edward P. Corning
Social Event Chairman	Frank M Johnson
Membership Chairman	Charles F. Scribner

Nominations will be accepted from the floor at the April 29<sup>th</sup> meeting and election of next year’s Officers and Directors will be held at the May 6<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Respectfully Submitted April 22, 2009,  
**Robert S. Mitchell Nominating, Chair  
Committee**

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**SOCIAL EVENTS &**

**Save The dates**

**Thursday June 4, 2009**

**42<sup>nd</sup> Street at GoodSpeed Opera House**

We'll have lunch at Gelston House on the Connecticut River and then attend a revival of the dance-musical "42<sup>nd</sup> Street" at Goodspeed Opera House. The series of hit parade songs and dancing will keep you humming and on your feet tapping your toes well into the night.

**Event Leader: Jerry Mucciolo**

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**Sunday June 21, 2009**

**Bluefish Baseball Game**

We'll drive to the Bluefish Stadium in Bridgeport just off I 95, Exit 27, for a special Father's day game. Bring the family and enjoy the enhanced pre-game luncheon in the stands.

**Event Leader: Mel Orr**

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**Sunday July 26 Brunch Cruise**

This is a "work in progress" so stay in touch with

**Event Leader Peter Hallock** for latest Info

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**Thursday August 27**

**Annual SMA Picnic, Weed Beach**

We return as usual for this big event- picnic with the meal prepared by the best cooks in the

area, your wives and friends. Good weather is guaranteed and the price is right—zilch, nada, zero. Nil.

**Event Leader: Coke Costello**

**Joe Sexton, Social Events Chair**

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**Ed Mulock's SMA Computer School at Darien Senior Center**



**Photo by George Walsh**

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**SPECIAL PROGRAM NOTE**

Please be good enough to return your ideas on future programs to Kirk Jewett on the **SMA Questionnaire** insert in this issue.

**SMA Newsletter staff wishes all members and their families a happy and healthy summer.**

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|---------------------|---------------------|
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