

D A R I E N

SMA

Senior Men's Association

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NEWSLETTER



SMA Officers and Directors for 2009-2010

Photo by Michael Poler

Front Row: Bob Mitchell, Kirk Jewett, Bob Ready, Marc Thorne, Peter Hallock, John Podkowsky, John Barston
Standing: John Schlachtenhaufen, Bill Winship, Bill Close, Frank Johnson, Chick Scribner, Harry Emmons, Tom Dunn

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

SMA has taken its summer vacation and, as you can see in this newsletter, we will be ready for a new year of interesting speakers, social events and our 10 specialized activities. Our first meeting will be on Wednesday September 9th in DCA at 10AM. We think you'll like our first speaker.

It is already time to send us your check for your annual SMA membership. See the enclosed membership form. Your Board of Directors hopes that many of us will opt to join the DCA at the same time. DCA is our home; and it needs our support. When you send one check for both memberships, you can consider it a contribution to a non-profit 501 c organization. Please send it promptly-we want to see your name in the SMA Directory this fall.

In addition please note an insert for a new **SMA Riders and Drivers Program** if you need a ride to Wednesday meetings, or if you can provide someone a ride. Please help us be more responsive to your needs by returning these forms promptly.

From your Board's late July meeting I am happy to report that Membership Chair Chick Scribner tells us membership is at an all time high and attendance at weekly meetings has been growing. And Treasurer Bob Ready reports we are financially sound. We owe our thanks to immediate past President Bill Winship and his team.

For the coming year Kirk Jewett and his Program Committee have been arranging some of the best speakers ever, and Frank Johnson's Social Events group are lining up a series of exciting day trips.

I look forward eagerly to another fine year of varied events with our outstanding members and volunteers. See you on September 9th.

Marc Thorne, President

PROGRAMS

Wednesday September 9, 2009

Undercover With The FBI

Jack Garcia will talk about his experiences as an undercover agent for the FBI. In his 26 years of service with the FBI, he is best known for his undercover role as "Jack Falcone", a self-described Sicilian jewel thief and drug dealer from Miami, Florida, who penetrated the Gambino crime family of La Cosa Nostra in New York City for nearly three years. He is also renowned for his roles in successful cases against corruption in Florida, Atlantic City, Boston and San Juan.

Suggested and Arranged by Kirk Jewett

Wednesday September 16, 2009

Surgical Plans to Free You from Cataracts and Eye Glasses

No more glasses. This used to be the boast of a 35 year old after **LASIK** surgery. Now a 70 year old can say it after **Cataract** surgery. Dr. Scott Spector, the area's premier eye surgeon, will talk about the advances in surgical techniques and lens implants that enable him to greatly minimize, and in many cases eliminate, the need for glasses for a growing percentage of his patients

Suggested by John Harmon, Arranged by Kirk Jewett

Wednesday September 23, 2009

"Don't Retire, Rewire" ®

Jeri Sedlar and Rick Miners, co-authors of a book with the above title, have become national thought leaders on the topic of rewiring and the new way to do retirement. They will speak on the constantly evolving face of retirement and why we all need to rewire our thinking and activities regardless of our age or stage of life.

Suggested and Arranged by Peter Hallock

Wednesday September 30, 2009

Commercial Darien, Past, Present, and Future

Get to know David Genovese, one of Darien's more active real estate developers and the builder of prominent new buildings in our downtown. His views on where we have been and where he sees Darien and the area going will be vital and exciting to hear since he is one of the men who will be taking us there.

Suggested and Arranged by Sandy McDonald

Wednesday, October 7, 2009

Darien Police K-9 Unit

The newly formed Darien Police K-9 unit was established in June 2009. This unit, the first of its kind in the department's 84 year history, will be a full-time addition to the department's patrol force. Sgt. Jeremiah P. Marron Jr., Unit Supervisor, and officer Nicholas Aranzullo, K-9 Handler, will speak on the unit's special abilities and the process in which the unit was formed. K-9 "Zulu", a two year old German Sheperd, will be on hand to perform in a short demonstration.

*Suggested by Bob Harrel
Arranged by Wally Pugh*

Wednesday October 14, 2009

You Want to Go Where ? How to Get Someone to Pay for the Trip of Your Dreams

Jeff Blumenthal is the editor and publisher of Exploration News and a member of The Explorer's Club and the Royal Geographic Society in London. Jeff will talk about his recently published book, "You Want to Go Where ? :How to Get Someone to Pay for the Trip of Your Dreams". Jeff will share his stories and photos of explorations and journeys of a lifetime and prove you are not too old to do this.

Suggested and Arranged by John Podkowsky

Wednesday, October 21, 2009

The Challenges of Contemporary Piracy

Dan Carr,. Assistant General Counsel of Stolt-Nielsen, will tell us of his active involvement in determining protective measures for the Stolt fleet of tankers to sail safely through the waters of the Gulf Aden.

*Suggested by Dave Sinclair
Arranged by Kirk Jewett*

Wednesday, October 28, 2009

Update on The Middle East

Karl E. Meyer, author of eleven books, correspondent, longtime New York Times editorial writer, editor emeritus of the World Policy Journal and co-author with his wife of the book **Kingmakers**, will discuss how the modern Middle East came to be by the Britons and Americans who shaped it.

Suggested and Arranged by Dick Cutler

SMA MEMBERSHIP REPORT

From January through June Darien SMA had average attendance of 114 per meeting. In this period 10 members joined and 5 resigned or passed away. Losing another member in July,our total is now 283. A few applications are waiting for September action.

Members are reminded to pay 2010 dues prior to November 1st in order to be listed in the 2010 Directory. Members 90 or older, and those who joined from January through June are exempt from new dues now. We welcome the following new members:

Lennox E. H. Stuart was born in Shaker Heights, Ohio. He graduated from Trinity-Pawling School in Pawling NY and went to West Virginia Wesleyan College and graduated with BA and BS in Economics and Business.

Lennox and his wife Margie Hansen of Silver Springs, Maryland have been Darien residents for 34 years. They have 3 children and 7 grand children. He served in the US Army attaining the rank of Specialist 5th Class.

Lennox was employed in the Advertising Communications business for Meredith Corp's Better Homes and Gardens magazine for 18 years. He also worked in Outdoor Advertising, Radio

Advertising and Direct Mail for James G. Elliot Company and in consulting.

Louis R. De Angelis who was born and reared in New York City graduated from Iona College in 1958 with a Business degree. After attending New York University Graduate School of Business he joined Montgomery Ward & Co. in 1960 in their New York office. During his tenure at Wards he held marketing and merchandising positions in ladies sportswear and children's wear. Wards went from 150 stores to more than 400 and became one of the first mass merchants to enter into worldwide sourcing. This afforded Lou the opportunity to travel and work in a variety of countries. After 18 years with Wards he joined, as partner, Inner World, manufacturers of private label merchandise for national chains.

Following retirement, he and his wife Gloria moved to New York City from Scarsdale where they had lived for 33 years. In Scarsdale, Lou was a Founding Member of their Historical Society and had long tenure in the Scarsdale father's coaching program. Lou and Gloria now live in Darien, as do two of their children and their families.

Gabor J. Mertl was born and grew up in Budapest, Hungary where he graduated from the Polytechnical University of Budapest, School of Architecture in 1956. The same year he participated in the Hungarian Revolution against Soviet tyranny. After the unsuccessful revolution he escaped Communist persecution by moving to Austria. Following 3 months in refugee camps, he arrived in the US in February 1957.

Gabe lived in Manhattan and worked at Voorhees, Walker, Smith & Smith Architectural & Engineering firm for almost 5 years. He also went to Columbia University School of Architecture earning an MS degree in June 1962, the same year he became a US citizen. Gabe had worked in construction since age 15 before attending college.

Since 1967 he has been self-employed in architecture. He is licensed in numerous states, has offices in New York, Connecticut and Florida, and designs and develops commercial and residential projects.

Gabe moved to Darien in 1968 with his artist wife Maria, to whom he has been married for 52 years. They have two children, a son in Florida, and a daughter in London with her husband and two children.

William F. Ball, who was born in Erie, Pennsylvania, attended Penn State University where he attained BS degrees in Accounting and Math. He later earned an MBA at Miami University.

As a CPA specializing in finance he worked for Lybrand, Ross Brothers, Iroquois, Donna Karen Co. and Elizabeth Arden.

Bill and his wife Lou moved to Darien in 1974. They have 3 children and 6 grandchildren. His hobbies are bridge and gardening.

Respectfully submitted, Chick Scribner, Chair

SPCIAL EVENTS

Our summer recess featured three events .

Guided by event leader Jerry Muccilo on June 4, forty seven SMAers and guests filled a bus to capacity for a trip to **GOODSPEED OPERA HOUSE** on the Connecticut River, and two other pairs drove to enjoy the events.

Participants enjoyed an excellent lunch at **Gelston House**, meeting the new owner who, we are told, offered "more wine" before proceeding to the theater.

The group had excellent seats for the musical **42nd Street** performed by Broadway quality singers and dancers.

On June 21, (Father's Day), event leader Mel Orr coordinated a visit to Bridgeport's **Harbor Yard** for 30 members and families.

After a picnic luncheon of hot dogs, BBQ ribs, grilled chicken and salads, watermelon and desert the group enjoyed a tight ball game in which the **New York Revolution** beat home team **Bluefish** by a score of 1-0

By the time members receive this newsletter we hope good weather will have prevailed on August 27 for the **Annual SMA Summer Picnic** coordinated this year by event leader Coke Costello and held at Weed Beach

SAVE THE DATES

Thursday, October 22, 2009

Culinary Institute of America and the Brotherhood Winery

We have planned a trip to the Culinary Institute of America for luncheon in their Italian restaurant and then on to Brotherhood winery for a tour, tasting and lecture on wine-making. See the insert for more details and be ready to sign up for a fantastic event under the guidance of Event Leader Mel Klugman.

Thursday December 10, 2009

SMA Christmas Luncheon

We again will be having this annual event at the Country Club of Darien. More details will be available this fall from event leader Wally Pugh, but meanwhile mark your calendars.

Frank Johnson, Social Events Chair



SMA Songsters

Photo by Michael Poler



Happy Wanderers Photo Taylor Strubinger.

Greetings from your SMA Newsletter Staff for 2009-2010

- Bill Gray, Production**
- Martin Skala, Editor**
- Frank Kemp Labels**
- Ed Mulock, Inserts**
- Bob Miller, Proofreader**