

**D A R I E N**

**SMA**

**Senior Men's Association**

Volume 33, Number 4

March-April 2010

# NEWSLETTER



**ROMEO, Retired old men eating out**

**Photo by waitress at Pizza, Pasta and Brew**

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Our 2010-2011 year is doing well. Membership and weekly attendance are at record highs. Finances are right where we need them to be.

Frank Johnson and his Social Events Committee have planned an attractive set of events. You will hear about them in plenty of time to sign up. Remember

“Your check is your ticket”

Kirk Jewett and his Program Committee have arranged for interesting speakers every week that we meet. The speakers for the rest of the year will continue the high quality we have been enjoying.

Our weekly activities are well attended, and you can start a new activity at any

time. Just raise your hand and see who else might want to participate. **The Widower's Dinner Group**, also known as the **ROMEO** s and gracing this newsletter, is our latest new activity. It was created thanks to John Geohagan and George Walsh.

Many of our members are actively involved in making our club run smoothly. We all owe them thanks. I suggest that you take a look around and see where you can lend a hand.

**Sincerely, Marc Thorne**

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**PROGRAMS**

Wednesday March 3, 2010

**Energy and Finance**

As an experienced leader in the field of energy, as well as finances, Richard Kaufmann, CEO of Good Energies, a global investor in renewable energy efficiency, will enlighten us on challenges in his field. He will also review key concerns of the world financial situation.

*Suggested and Arranged by Kirk Jewett*

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Wednesday March 10, 2010

**Rescuing Cultural Treasures in War-Torn Lands**

Stuart Gibson, senior cultural consultant for UNESCO ( United Nations Educational,Scientific and Cultural Organization), has traveled the world to save treasured objects of art in war-ravaged countries. He was the very first to visit Iraq in such a capacity and will tell us

about this important venture along with a slide show.

*Suggested and Arranged by Martin Skala*

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Wednesday March 17, 2010

**Constitution Jazz Band**

SMA member Bill Gray became an avid lover of traditional jazz at an early age hearing on the radio Hot Lips Henry Levine and his Symphony Band from Lower Basin Street and later the classic records of "King" Joe Oliver, Louis Armstrong's Hot 5 & 7 and trombonist Kid Ory. In college Bill tried unsuccessfully to play that horn. In 1983 he finally formed his own band which continues to perform at times since. Bill and his 6 piece New Orleans style band will play "good old songs" for us. Wives or girl friends are welcome for this gig.

*Suggested by Kirk Jewett and arranged by Bill*

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Wednesday March 24, 2010

**Inside 60 Minutes**

Darien resident Scott Pelley has been a CBS "60 Minutes" correspondent since 2004. Previously he served as correspondent for CBS "60 Minutes Two" and Chief White House Correspondent for CBS Evening News. His insightful reporting has been seen by millions worldwide and earned him 3 Edward R. Murrow Awards, 2 Peabody Awards and 10 EMMYS. Scott will take us inside "60 Minutes", telling us how the show comes together and highlighting favorite stories.

*Suggested and Arranged by John Schlachtenhaufen*

Wednesday March 31, 2010

**Challenges for Cities of the World**

Professor Richard J. Norton of the Naval War College will explore the concept of “feral” cities, a new phenomena which poses significant cultural and security issues with many 21<sup>st</sup> Century states losing control of their cities.

*Suggested and Arranged by Dick Cutler*

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Wednesday April 7, 2010

**Congressional Update**

Jim Himes, who was elected to Congress from our district in 2008, will give us an update on what is happening in Congress, especially focusing on healthcare and other items of interest to seniors.

*Suggested and Arranged by Wally Pugh*

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Wednesday April 14, 2010

**Health Care Costs**

What are they and what can be done about them ? Our member, Dr. John Fitzgibbons will discuss hospital finances, physician reimbursement, other elements of health care costs and proposals to control or reduce those costs.

*Suggested by Kirk Jewett  
Arranged by John Podkowsky*

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Wednesday April 21, 2010

**An In-Depth look at the US Supreme Court**

The US Supreme Court is a vital leg of our government, but it is probably the least known and understood. Steve Nightingale has studied the court professionally and has argued nine cases before it. He has been a lawyer since 1978 in Washington DC and Hartford. Steve, a Darien native, and son of our former member, will discuss the important current cases and profiles of the current justices.

*Suggested by Sandy McDonald*

Wednesday April 28, 2010

**Organic Farming Update**

In 2005, Larry Cross started organic farming on land farmed since 1825 in Katonah, N.Y. His is the only certified organic farm in Westchester County. The crops grown include fruits and vegetables which are sold locally

*Suggested and Arranged by Taylor Strubinger*

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**SMA MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

As of this writing we have admitted only one new member into the Darien SMA so far in 2010. We have been expecting applications from two prospective members issued over a month ago. With possible depletion from death or resignation we have plenty of room for new members.

We welcome one new member:

**Thomas P. Lom**, who was born in Philadelphia J graduated in 1970 from Trinity College and, following active duty in the Army Reserves, earned an MBA in Marketing from Columbia University. Tom enjoyed a 35 year career in advertising beginning with Compton Advertising, later acquired by Saatchi & Saatchi. Among many

clients, he worked extensively with P & G and Johnson and Johnson, helping Tylenol recover from two product tamperings in 1982 and 1986. Tom served as managing Partner of Saatchi's New York office from 2000 to 2003 and as President of Saatchi & Saatchi Consumer Health Care from 2004 to 2006. He also was President of William Douglas McAdams and Executive Vice President at BBDO.

Tom's interest in healthcare marketing fed his interest in non-profit health education. He served on the Board of the National Center of Health Education in New York from 1998 to 2007. He was a board member of the Terri Gotthelf Lupus Research Institute and on the Non-Prescription Drug Manufacturers Association.

Since 1978 Tom and his wife Winifred have lived in Darien, raising their son and two daughters. They are members of the Country Club of Darien. Winifred is an active volunteer at the Darien Senior Center, Person to Person and Stamford Hospital/Tully Center. Tom is an active golfer and platform tennis player and still follows "Philly" sports teams as if he lives there.

**Chick Scribner, Membership Chair**

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**SOCIAL EVENTS**

The **New York Philharmonic rehearsal and St. Andrew's Restaurant** on January 14 coordinated by event leader **Mel Orr** gave a rousing good start to our Social events this spring.

**Save the Dates**

Thursday Mach 4, 3020

The insert by **Ed Mulock and event leader Bill Winship** gives details about the **two Waterbury museums and Dresher's Restaurant**, a trip which will have much central Connecticut history.

Thursday April 15, 2010

The other insert by **Ed Mulock & Event Leader Tom Thompson** describes a New York visit to **Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum** followed by lunch again at **St. Andrew's Restaurant**.

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Thursday May 13, 2010

We will bus to famous **Belmont Race Track** on Long Island to view the races from the Garden Terrace's panoramic window and dine in an upscale environment, or bet on our favorite horses. We always have a fabulous time and you can keep your winnings. Belmont is always a favorite

Lastly, two summer events are still being planned for mid July and the August picnic. Details will be in our May-June Newsletter.

**Frank Johnson, Chair Social Events**

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**SMA HAPPY WANDERERS**

**Save The Dates**

The Wanderers have set their Spring Wandering dates, all Thursdays, for **April 8, May 6, & June 10**.

**John Barston. Chief Wanderer**

**Publisher's note:**

We all are entertained at regular meetings with the Chief Wanderer's colorful descriptions of journeys to come and those completed. And this extremely versatile member also regales us with his non-computer aided conduct of sporting pools. **BUT** were you aware that the Super Bowl winners were Three "SMA Insiders": Treasurer Bob Ready got \$ 50 as did Songster's Joe

Holmes, and the big winner was former President Frank Johnson with a take of \$ 100? Does any one feel these results are curious enough to warrant an audit before the March Madness Pool?

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### TWO SMA LONG TERM HEROES

As we attend and leave our weekly meetings, most of us probably take for granted the setup in the DCA foyer with documents and badges, and the table at the back of the meeting room for social event sign-ups and signing cards. We are too often asked to sign sympathy cards unless we hear “No Cards Today”, happily meaning no one needed special care or attention in the week just passed.

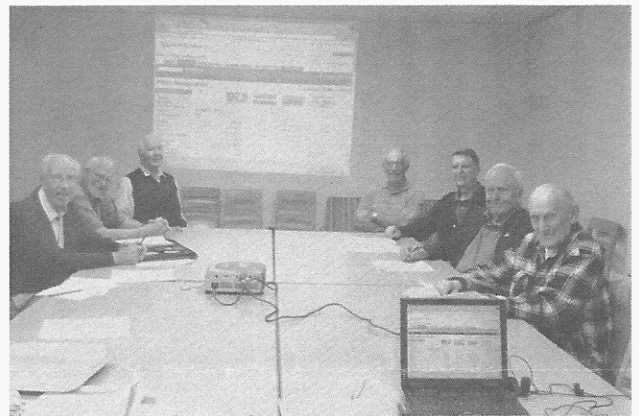
**Chick Scribner and Don Brown** are two “Steady Eddy” SMA members who have been in service probably longer than even they can remember. They do not stand for re-election yet they probably know more about what is going on in SMA than most others. The **Membership & SMA Care Chairs** are two jobs that take a lot of doing, time and care to get things right for SMA.

So **Chick and Don**, we salute you with thanks

### Three of our Weekly Activities



**Table Tennis**



**Investments**



**Golf**

**Photos By George Walsh**

**Happy Spring from Your newsletter staff**

**Bill Gray** Producer  
**Martin Skala**, Editor  
**Ed Mulock**, Inserts  
**Bob Miller**, Proofreader  
**David Jaycox**, Total Printing