

D A R I E N

SMA

Senior Men's Association

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NEWSLETTER



SMA Nominating Committee

L-r, Joe Holmes; John Schlactenhaufen; Kirk Jewett, Chair; Marc Thorne; Wally Pugh;
Photo by Michael Poler

The SMA Nominating Committee is charged with identifying a slate of candidates for Officers and Directors for the 2012-2013 SMA fiscal year beginning June 1, 2012. The Committee will be meeting during the first Quarter of 2012 to identify candidates. On April 18, 2012, the Committee will present a slate of candidates to the SMA membership. The following week, April 25, additional nominations will be accepted from the floor. The vote for these positions will take place on the first Wednesday in May.

Committee Chairman, Kirk Jewett notes that serving as an Officer and/or Director of SMA is a very rewarding experience. Any members who are interested in serving on the SMA Board should let their desires be known to Kirk or one of the other Committee members.

UPCOMING EVENT!!!!

Super Bowl XLVI is on February 5, 2011. Even though the Happy Wanderers are done with exploring New York City until late March or early April next year, the two lead walkers (Barston & Bellis) have some entertainment planned for us in the meantime.

Starting January 18, we will have the chance to fill in the 100 squares on the Super Bowl grid by paying the sum of \$2 per square. When the grid is full, there will be a drawing by a neutral party that will assign numbers to each square that represents the score for each team at the end of the first quarter, the halftime, the third quarter, and the final score. All proceeds are disbursed; \$25, \$25, \$50, & \$100 for, respectively, 1st qtr, halftime, 3rd qtr, and final score.

Message from the President

SMA NEEDS YOU



In reviewing the results of the September SMA survey, the membership responded overwhelmingly that the SMA Leadership was doing a great job. In early 2012, the Nominating Committee will be meeting to identify candidates for 2012-2013 leadership positions. The Nominating Committee will be seeking candidates for seven SMA officer and six SMA director positions. Additionally, there are 10 SMA Standing Committee Chairmen and forty four committee members, all of whom make our Senior Men's Association meetings, programs, and events happen. Will you contribute your time and energy to keep our Organization functioning at a high level?

I continue to be impressed by the business talent of our members. Many have served in managerial and executive capacities in companies large and small. If you have interest in serving in a leadership role in the SMA, please contact me or Kirk Jewett, Chairman of the Nominating Committee. If you are asked by the Nominating Committee to serve in an executive capacity, please say YES. The SMA NEEDS YOU.

John Podkowsky, President

PROGRAMS

Wednesday, January 4, 2012

Elizabeth Smith Mao, Chairperson of the Darien Board of Finance, will be our speaker. She will bring us up-to-date on the Darien town finances and prospects for the future.

Suggested and arranged by Wally Pugh

Wednesday, January 11, 2012

James Rickards will speak on the subject of Currency Wars. He is the author of "Currency Wars—the making of the Next Global Crisis". Rickards is a Darien resident. He has advised clients of an impending financial collapse, of a decline in the dollar and a sharp rise in the gold price years in advance. He believes the United States needs to go back to a gold standard.

Suggested and arranged by Wally Pugh

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

The Looming Federal Budget Crisis. Bradford Higgins will present an insider's view of the real problems and potential solutions. The former Chief Financial Officer of the U.S. State Department discusses the systemic problems facing the federal budget deficit that makes solving this growing crisis even more difficult as well as providing an historical perspective on how we got into this mess and what we need to do to fix it before it is too late.

Suggested and arranged by Martin Skala

Wednesday, January 25, 2012

Christopher Shays will return to discuss a variety of topics related to the federal budget, spending, tax policy, etc. Chris served as our representative in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1988 to 2008. He is currently considering a run for the seat in the U.S. Senate currently held by Joe Lieberman.

Suggested by many and arranged by Joe Holmes

Wednesday, February 1, 2012

Dr. Paul Gagne will speak on the subject of how advances in medical technology have produced better outcomes for patients with diseases of the arteries or veins. Dr. Gagne is a board certified and renowned general and vascular surgeon specializing in the treatment of arterial and venous diseases.

Suggested by Bob Jordan and arranged by Bob Ready.

Wednesday February 8, 2012

Julie Jason, author of "The AARP Retirement Survival Guide" and a well known financial advisor, will speak on the subject of managing wealth in retirement. She is also a columnist for the Stamford Advocate.

Suggested by Marc Thorne and arranged by Bob Ready

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Wednesday, February 15, 2012

Maura Carley will speak on the uncertain future of Medicare. Maura is President and CEO of Healthcare Navigation LLC, and has spoken to our Senior Men's Association on at least two prior occasions.

Suggested by John Schlachtenhaufen and arranged by Bob Ready

Wednesday February 22, 2012

Dr. Danilo de la Pena, a well known expert on the subject of ageing and dementia will be our speaker. He is the Director of the Research Center for Clinical Studies in Norwalk and recently got rave reviews speaking before a women's group at the DCA.

Suggested by George Cammann and arranged by Bob Ready

Wednesday, February 29, 2012

Connecticut Child Advocates Group will have a presentation. Their President, Liz Phillips, and Jackie Grunde, a Program Supervisor, will speak to us about the activities of their group and of the pressing need for greater child advocacy in Connecticut.

Suggested by Ben Briggs and arranged by Bob Ready

As noted in the Sept-Oct SMA Newsletter, all dues should be paid by November 1. This year at that point there were over 50 members delinquent. As a result, emails and post cards were sent as reminders. 36 members are still in arrears. These members will be contacted by phone to find out if they plan on continuing their membership. After this, delinquent members will be considered not interested and will be dropped from our rolls.

Sam Schoonmaker was born in Newburgh, NY in 1935 and after attending Lawrence School, received a BA in economics in 1958 from Yale and a JD, also from Yale. Sam started his legal practice in 1961 as an associate with Cummings and Lockwood and was managing partner until 1996 when he co-founded the firm of Schoonmaker, George & Colin.



Sam moved to Darien in 1966 with his wife, Carolyn. They have two sons and three grandchildren.

Sam was captain of Yale's tennis team in 1958 and recently was inducted into the US Tennis Association New England Hall of Fame. He enjoyed golf and tennis until his knees gave out but remains a member of WeeBurn, Yale Club of NYC.

Philip Smith was born in 1936 and graduated from Princeton in '58 as a Chem. Eng. After 3 years in the Navy, he attended Harvard Business School, graduating in 1961. Phil was with Citicorp for 15 years and Irving Trust for 10. He founded Citicorp Ventures in 1968 and continues to be active in venture fund investing.



Philip and wife Linda moved to Darien in 1963. They have 4 daughters and 10 grandchildren, all in the area. He enjoys golf, sailing and fishing when not "venturing".

Ray Meuer was born in Manhattan in 1931 and raised in Great Neck. After graduation from Great Neck High School, Ray graduated in 1953 from Wabash College with a BA in English. Ray has worked for several companies such as Walden Book Company, Sperry & Hutchinson, and The American Petroleum Institute where he edited company publications, wrote stories of the company, and produced films. Ray joined IBM in 1959 where he produced television and print advertising, did press relations, and wrote executive presentations until retiring in 1991.



Ray and wife, Joyce, have lived in Rowayton for 35 years and are members of the United Church of Rowayton where Ray is a former moderator. They have three adult children and six grandchildren, all of whom live in the area.

Ray is a life long boater and is a member of the Corinthian and Rowayton Yacht Club. Ray serves as harbor superintendent Five Mile River and belongs to the Connecticut Harbor Management Association.



Romeos celebrating the 90th birthday of Bill Doughman. Romeos meet every Wednesday at 5 at Pizza, Pasta, and Brew and invite everyone to feel free to join them for some good food and fine conversation.

SOCIAL EVENTS

We had a terrific time at the annual Christmas luncheon at the Country Club of Darien. Almost one hundred members, wives, and friends along with twelve widows, as guests of the SMA attended. The music of Joe Holmes Swing Band was fantastic, the food out of this world, and fun and fellowship were enjoyed by all. Our thanks to Wally Pugh, Peter Hallock, and Bill Winship for putting together this outstanding affair.

SAVE THE DATE, on Thursday, February 3, we will bus to New Haven to visit two Yale art-museums and lunch at the fabulous Union League restaurant. Contact Bill Winship for questions and sign up. Future events are planned for March and April; the trip to the races at Belmont Park will occur in May. We are arranging a July tour of the “new” Yankee Stadium and will close the summer with our annual picnic in August.

Happy Wanderers on November 10 crossed over the Queensborough (Ed Koch) Bridge to explore Astoria and revisit Greenpoint. Fourteen hardy souls made the 8 mile trek into Astoria, pausing to visit the Silvercup film studios and then crossing the Pulaski Bridge into Greenpoint for a Polish lunch. Photo by Mel Orr.





ANNUAL CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Country Club of Darien



Counterclockwise from top right: Dancing to Joe Holmes's band, enjoying the feast, widows, the band in action, a group of veterans. Photos by George Walsh and Marc Thorne



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