



Volume 40, No 1

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NEWSLETTER



**Repairing
Wreaths
Nov. 3, 2016**

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

The DMA completed a successful 2015-2016 year under the leadership of Alex Garnett and the other officers. At the close of the year on June 1, we had 276 members. Over the year, we welcomed 35 new members, a number that compares very favorably with prior years. Also encouraging is the fact that many of our new members were introduced by members who themselves recently joined. Our weekly program speakers were well-received, and we held several great social events.

We continue looking for ways to further strengthen the organization. It is no surprise that our weekly meetings receive the greatest member attendance, but more members could benefit from participating than currently do so. Your board met on July 18 and concluded that we could do a better job of marketing opportunities for involvement, particularly to relatively new members. Included would be joining committees as well. . . Our annual dues have remained unchanged at \$50 for as long as any of us can remember, but we are confronted with cost increases this year. After holding flat for a few years its fee to use its facilities for our weekly meetings, the Darien Community Association is raising the charge to us. And Carolyn Eddie, who provided us with such fine refreshments at a very reasonable cost, is moving to Scandinavia. We have contracted with Valva's

to replace her, and we are comfortable with the new arrangement. In view of these cost increases, we have to raise our dues to \$75. This increase is being ameliorated by a reduction from \$50 to \$25 in the suggested voluntary contribution, which is used to pay a portion of the refreshment expenses and to underwrite the widows' costs at our June and December parties.

Finally, I would like to thank all of the committee members, and club leaders, as well as the general members who offer their suggestions and encouragement. It is a tribute to all of you that the DMA stands where it does today.

Best regards,

Scott Hutchason, President

Speakers—Nov & Dec

Wednesday, November 23, 2016

NO MEETING

Wednesday, November 30, 2016

Art Gottlieb, a local historian on political and military history, will talk on whether the use of the atomic bomb was justified in order to bring the war in the Pacific to a speedier conclusion.

Art is a professional curator of naval history and Technical Director of Exhibits at the Intrepid Sea-Air-Space Museum in New York City. He has

worked with veterans of all services creating exhibits accurately, illustrating the history of 20th-century warfare and has helped recover scores of artifacts from warships slated for demolition. He coordinates with all branches of the armed services to preserve historic ships, aircraft and armor from around the world. Art also serves as a counselor and certified senior advisor in Norwalk, Conn.: He uses his professional talents to address the needs of aging veterans and their families and offers pro bono counseling services to soldiers returning from Iraq and Afghanistan. He served as an auxiliary officer of the



United States Coast Guard for 17 years and, for four years, was commander of Flotilla 7-w, 1st District (Southern Region), Sector Long Island Sound North

Wednesday, December 7, 2016



Sylvia Reiss will talk about “Our Amazing Stone Walls: What They Are and Where They Are.”

A local resident, stone wall enthusiast and historian, Sylvia will present a fascinating, educational and amusing look at these historical structures.

Stone walls are the signature archaeological legacy of Darien and New England itself. They can be seen along roadsides, far into the woods, across back yards and between houses. The stone walls delineate and define northeastern America as surely as the Appian Way says Italy or the Great Wall says China. Darien is fortunate to have within its 23.4 square miles many linear miles of these walls that have for centuries characterized our town's agrarian heritage. It is the story of millions of fieldstones, tossed, stacked and laid; of single walls, double walls capped or coped; of rare walls and mysteries that will be revealed during Sylvia's presentation. She is a former teacher, retired antiques dealer, past president of the Antiques Council and tag-along historian with her husband Ken Reiss, who is the Darien Historical Society's historian.

Arranged by **Tom Haacke**

Wednesday, December 14, 2016



Jon Zagrodsky, chairman of the Town of Darien Board of Finance, will summarize the comments he will have made at the December 12, 2016, State of the Town meeting that covers key town financial issues, including the outlook for the 2018-2019 budget process that starts in January and the possible impact of Hartford's difficult financial

situation on the Town of Darien. The elected seven-member board is responsible for the town's \$130 million annual budget. Jon also serves as a member of the Darien Town and Police Pension boards and was president of the Darien Historical Society from

2011-2015. he is a member of the Board of Trustees of the Forman School, a Litchfield (Connecticut) high school that specializes in children with learning differences. Jon is a managing director of Oak Hill Capital Partners and serves as chief administrative officer and chief compliance officer. He is responsible for finance, operations, human resources, administration, information technology and business planning. Prior to joining Oak Hill, he was an associate principal and director of financial planning and analysis at McKinsey & Company. He earned a B.A. degree in economics and romance languages from Washington & Lee University and an M.B.A. degree from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania.

Arranged by Tom Lom

Wednesday, December 21, 2016



Richard Blumenthal, United States Senator for Connecticut, serving his first term, will talk about the key issues facing the state and the country. Previously, he served five terms as Connecticut's attorney general where his law enforcement for consumer protection, environmental stewardship, labor rights and personal privacy helped reshape the role of state attorneys general nationwide. As attorney general he advocated for reforms in health insurance and worked to eradicate corruption in state government. He fought unfair utility rate charges and air pollution causing acid rain. From 1977 to 1981, he served as a U.S. attorney for Connecticut. He also served in the Connecticut House of Representatives from 1984 to 1987 and the Connecticut State Senate from 1987 to 1990. Senator Blumenthal graduated from Harvard College and Yale Law School, where he was editor-in-chief of the *Yale Law Journal*. He served in the United States Marine Corps Reserves from 1970 to 1976 and was honorably discharged with the rank of sergeant.

Arranged by Bob Fiske

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

The trip to New Haven on November 17 is sold out. The next event will be the Annual Christmas Party

on December 15. It will be a terrific event so be sure and sign up early. An exciting schedule of activities is in the works. A visit is planned to the Intrepid anchored in the Hudson River in New York City: a visit to NBC's new studios in Chelsea Piers in Stamford: a visit to Teddy Roosevelt's home, Sagamore Hill, in Oyster Bay: and the annual picnic at Weed Beach to top off the year.

MEMBERSHIP

The current membership of the DMA is 281. Meet our new members and be sure and greet them as you see them at our meetings:

Peter Imbrogno was born in 1942 in Greenwich, Conn., and graduated from Greenwich High



School in 1961, where he played football and basketball and was a member of the Creative Artists Club. In 1966, he received a B.S. degree in education from Long Island University, where he played soccer and was a member of the Future Teachers

Club. Peter went on to receive an M.S. degree in education from Springfield College. He was a teacher in the Norwalk, Conn., school system. He then became a commercial flooring estimator at the Design Center, New York City. He is owner of Imbrogno's Commercial Flooring in Greenwich. Peter and his wife Peggy live in Darien and have three children and four grandchildren. He is a member of the Flooring Contractors Association, Tequesta Country Club in Florida and Darien Country Club. Peter enjoys reading, golf and international travel.

Gene Markowski was born in 1942 in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., and grew up in Plymouth, Pa. He



graduated in 1960 from St. Vincent's High School, where he played baseball and basketball. He received a B.S. degree in engineering from the United States Military Academy, West Point, N.Y., and an M.B.A. from Business School. Gene joined the United States Army

Harvard Business School. Gene joined the United States Army in 1964 and attended airborne, ranger and helicopter schools. He went on to serve in Viet Nam with the 1st Air Cavalry, becoming an aviation company commander. He is a recipient of the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Bronze Star, the Air Medal and the Commendation Medal. He began his business career with Ford Motor Company as a financial analyst and then joined *Newsweek* magazine, becoming budget director, business manager and chief financial officer of the international edition. He then joined RCB International, an investment company, becoming chief financial officer and chief operating officer. He later served in the same capacity at Northern Trust Global Advisors. Prior to retiring in 2015, he was with Federal Street Partners, LLC as a partner and chief operating officer. Gene and his wife Bonnie live in Darien and have two adult children and three grandchildren. He is a member of Wee Burn Country Club, Tokeneke Club and Lost Tree Club. He enjoys golf, tennis, paddle tennis and bridge.

Jim Demark was born in 1941 in Newark, N.J., and graduated in 1958 from Bayley-Ellard High School, where he was on the football, basketball and baseball teams. He received an A.B. degree in history in 1963 from Upsala College, where he played football, was a member of the Political Science Club and was president of Pi Delta Phi fraternity. He began his business career in New York City in 1964 as a trainee at J.P. Stevens & Co., Inc. and went on to hold various management positions, becoming president of the Home Furnishing Division. Twenty years later, he started his own home furnishing manufacturing and marketing business that he continues operating today. Jim and his wife Susan live in Darien and have three adult children and six grandchildren. He is a member of Wee Burn Country Club, Darien YMCA and the Republican Town Committee. He enjoys reading, golf, swimming, fishing, bowling, walking and travel.

Brad Lane was born in 1941 in New York City and grew up in Crestwood, N.Y. He graduated in 1959 from Roosevelt High School, where he was a member of the Honor Society, the GO Council and the Wig & Whiskers drama club. He also sang in the choir and the Boys Quartet. Brad received a B.A. degree in economics from Yale University, where he played



intramural football. Upon graduating in 1964, he went to work as a lumber broker with Lawrence R. McCoy & Co. in Worcester, Mass. In 1967, he joined Thomas Publishing Company in New York City, where he was a sales service manager for 39 years until retiring. He lives in Bedford, N.Y., with his companion, Marian. He has one adult child. His interests include computers, reading, cooking, TV and movies.

Michael LeMoult was born in 1940, grew up in Larchmont, N.Y. and graduated from Mamaroneck High School in 1959. He received a B.S. degree in economics from Villanova University in 1963. For the next seven years, he worked in the family business, the oldest established florist in New York



City, and attended night school at Pace University, receiving an M.B.A. in finance in 1971. He then joined Johnson & Johnson in finance, becoming financial accounting manager for the Personal Products Division. In 1975, he joined American Can Company, working in finance for new product development, marketing and sales. He also worked in finance with various affiliated companies, such as James River Corporation, Pechiney Corporation, Alcan and Bemis Company until retiring in 2014. He and his wife Doreen live in Darien and have two adult children. He enjoys swimming, skiing, tennis, golf and boating.

Joe Lopiano was born in 1945 in Stamford, Conn., and graduated in 1963 from Darien High School, where he was captain of the basketball and baseball teams. He attended Southern Connecticut State University, where he received B.A., M.S. and M.A. degrees in education and administration and was captain of the NCCA Eastern Regional Baseball Championship team. His



career in education began in 1968 and included teaching, coaching and leadership positions in the Stamford public school system, retiring in 2008. In the summertime, he ran the snack bar at Weed Beach and Pear Tree Point and worked for the Good Humor Corporation and the Custom Pools Company. He and his wife Mary live in Darien and have two adult children and three grandchildren. Joe is a member of Darien Boat Club, Kiwanis Club, the YMCA and the Southern Connecticut Teachers Retirement Board. He enjoys fishing, boating, biking and cooking.

Dave Piersol was born in 1958 in Royal Oak, Mich.



He received a B.A. degree in economics and psychology from the University of Michigan, where he played soccer. He holds an M.B.A. degree in finance, marketing and operations from Northwestern University Kellogg Graduate School of Management. Dave began his business career with Xerox in Toledo, Ohio. He

went on to work with Morgan Stanley in New York City as vice president and later held a similar position with Greenwich Capital. He then joined Bank of America as managing director and later held a similar position with J.P. Morgan and Bank of New York Mellon. He now is a financial advisor with Edward Jones Investments in Darien, where he lives and has five children. He is a member of the Noroton Presbyterian Church and the New Canaan Society and is assistant scout master, Boy Scouts of America, Troop 53. He enjoys coaching boys' sports teams, hiking, biking, camping, fishing, skiing, golf, photography, cooking, piano and vintage American muscle cars.

Jim Fletcher was born in Newark, N.J., in 1937. He



received a B.A. degree in history and science in 1959 from Saint Anselm College. He joined Crawford & Company, an independent claims management firm, in 1959 in its New York City office and later was named assistant manager of the White Plains, N.Y., office and

then manager of the Stamford, Conn., office. In 1970, he opened J.J. Fletcher Company, Inc. in White Plains, N.Y., providing investigation and trial preparatory services to major insurance carriers and their defense firms in the tri-state area, retiring in 2008. Jim and his wife Barbara live in Darien and have one child. Jim is a member of Darien Boat Club, Knollwood Country Club and Equinox Health Club and is a former member of Middlesex Club. He enjoys golf, antique cars, history and exercise.

Erik Rambusch was born in 1941 in New



York City. He received a B.A. degree in economics from St. John Fisher College in 1965 and was commissioned a 1st Lieutenant in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in 1967. He received an M.B.A. in marketing and organizational

development from Columbia School of Business in 1970. Erik joined Schaffer Associates, Stamford, Conn., in 1970 as an associate in operations improvement. He then went to work for Dun & Bradstreet and later The New York Times in human resources. He established Rambusch Associates in 1977, providing leadership and career development consulting. He currently is an adjunct professor at Norwalk Community College. He and his wife Nancy Jo live in Rowayton and have three adult children and five grandchildren. Erik is a member of the board of directors of the Lifetime Learners program at Norwalk Community College and is a member of Rowayton Yacht Club.



Phil Schaefer was born in 1942 in Elmhurst, Ill., and graduated from York Community High School in 1958. He received an undergraduate degree in mathematics from Northwestern University in 1961 and a master's de-

degree in economics from Harvard Graduate School. He graduated from Harvard Law School in 1968. He began practicing law in New York City with Breed, Abbott & Morgan and later worked for Strasser, Spiegelberg, Fried and Frank. He joined the Texaco Legal Department in 1973, retiring in 2002. Phil and his wife Mary Jane live in Rowayton and have two adult children. He is a White Sox baseball fan and a member of the oldest rotisserie baseball league. He maintains a blog to which he has posted daily for almost 10 years: www.philipschaefer.com.

Ed Wilson was born in 1945 in Brooklyn, N.Y., and graduated in 1964 from John Adams High School in Brooklyn, where he was a member of the Business, Drama and Public Speaking clubs. He received an A.B. degree in Spanish from Benedictine College, a global language teaching certificate from Yale University,

an M.A. in Gifted Talented Education from the University of Connecticut and a C.A.S. degree in school psychology from Fairfield University. He also studied Spanish at the University of Valencia in Spain. His career in education includes Spanish teacher in New Haven, Conn.; bilingual psychologist in New York City; and education director in Norwalk, Conn. He currently is a consulting bilingual psychologist in the Bridgeport and Darien school systems. He and his wife Mary Jayne live in Darien and have two adult children and four grandchildren. He is a member of Piedmont Associates, Darien Boat Club, National Association of School Psychologists, Educational Union Association, Phi Delta Kappa, State Line Muscle Car Club, Darien YMCA, Greenwich Art Society, Greenwich Arts Council and United Federation of Teachers. Ed's interests include boating, travel, oil painting, model railroading, world languages and his grandchildren.

FROM THE PUBLISHER: HELP! We need a volunteer to take over the publishing. The last volunteer had to retire for personal reasons, thus causing the absence of the first letter this year and a late one. It is easy, and we can train you. **HELP!!**

WANDERING HIGH LINE TO KATZ'S DELI



**Taylor Strubinger, Publisher
Ray Meurer, Bios & Speakers
Frank Kemp, Labels
Michael Poler, Photos
Tom Glover, Art Work**