



Christmas Cocktail Party attended by 170 at Country Cub of Darien, December 15, 2016.



Photos by Gregory Glashan and Bob Smith

President's Message

It has been a great beginning to the 2016-2017 season of the DMA. Our focus this year is on increasing member participation in our activities, and you, our members, have answered the call. We have inaugurated a new activity, pickleball, which has enjoyed an enthusiastic reception. Our last hike had 18 people in attendance—a record—and an earlier hike had 14 participants, exceeded only by our initial hike in 2013. Our November trip to the Yale Center for British Art sold out bus capacity two weeks in advance. Undaunted, four persons drove to New Haven on their own to join the group.



The Book Club has grown and now is our most popular activity. Two members have stepped forward and are planning to introduce a new activity, about which you will hear later. Our hope was that greater member activity would lead to growth in membership, and this has been the case. You have brought a large number of guests to our meetings, and 19 have elected to join the ranks of new members in the first four months of this season. This compares with 26 in all of 2015-2016. In addition, existing members have renewed their membership earlier and in greater numbers than last year.

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Attendance at our weekly meetings is up, as the Program Speaker Committee continues to attract excellent speakers. The directors and officers of the DMA wish to express their appreciation for all you do to make our club more successful. We hope you had a happy and safe holiday season, and we wish you a healthy and successful new year.

Scott Hutchason, president

Events and Activities

Book Club. *Hillbilly Elegy* by J.D. Vance will be discussed January 11, according to **Harris Hester**. The book analyzes the white underclass that drove the politics of rebellion and the ascent of Trump. **John Walcott** will lead the discussion. On February 8, *The Innovators* by Walter Isaacson will be discussed. The book is a definitive history of the digital revolution and the geniuses who created it. Darien Library has the books and offers a bulk checkout to the DMA. Books must be returned after reading. Meetings are the first Wednesday of the month, 12:30 p.m., Library Room, Mather Center. Bring your lunch. Beverages are provided by the center.

Super Bowl Pool. You can select boxes for the pool at our Wednesday meeting on January 18 and 25 and February 1, reports **John Barston**. Boxes are \$2 each. Prizes are based on the box holder's score at the end of each quarter. Prize amounts are \$25 end first quarter, \$50 end first half, \$25 end third quarter and \$100 end of game. Prize money will be awarded at our February 8 meeting. John will have more to say about the pool at our upcoming meetings. Game day is February 5.

Christmas Cocktail Party. **Bill Winship**, chairman of social events, and **Tony Yezzi**, event chairman, report that the Christmas Cocktail Party was a huge success. The festivities attracted 170 people to the Country Club of Darien on December 15, 2016. Entertainment by the Blue Notes singing group accompanied by **Joe Holmes** on the electronic keyboard livened up the evening and added to the spirit of good cheer. Joe filled in at the last minute for the group's ailing accompanist. The food was excellent, and, needless to say, a good time was had by all.

Speakers January - February

Wednesday, January 4



Michael J. Nyenthuis, president and chief executive officer of Americares, will talk about distributing \$500 million a year in donated medicines and medical supplies to people around the world who otherwise would not get treatment. Michael leads a global health and emergency response organization that increases access to medical care in more than 90 countries, including the United States, El Salvador, India, Liberia, Nepal, the Philippines, Sierra Leone and Tanzania, plus free health clinics in Connecticut. Americares helps local health workers do their job better: Through the effective use of technology, the organization helps get medicine and supplies to the right place at the right time. Michael is a global health professional with 20 years of experience who previously served as

president and chief executive officer of MAP International. He received a B.A. degree from the University of Wisconsin, Green Bay, and an M.B.A. from Emory University.

Arranged by Tom Lom

Wednesday, January 11

Ed McLaughlin and **Wyn Lydecker** will talk about becoming an entrepreneur: how to start, fund



and grow the right business. Co-authors of the book *The Purpose Is Profit: The Truth about Starting and Building Your Own Business*, they will discuss why distinctive competence trumps passion when starting a business. They also will talk about where to get funding without losing control and why a startup should factor profit into every business decision. Over the years, **Ed “Skip” McLaughlin** founded four businesses and today runs



Blue Sunsets LLC, a real estate and agent investment firm. His first business grew into an *Inc.* magazine 500 company that later was sold to a Fortune 100 company, where Skip became CEO of Global Workplace Business for the Americas. He was named Entrepreneur of the Year by Ernst & Young in 2001. He is a member of the Tufts Medical Center board of governors, where he founded the David E. Wazer Breast Cancer Research Fund. Skip graduated from College of the Holy Cross and is a member of the board of trustees. He lives with his wife in Connecticut, has three adult children and is active in philanthropy. **Wyn Lydecker** is founder of Upstart Business Planning and works with entrepreneurs to develop plans that answer the questions investors ask most often. Previously, she was managing director of Business Plan International in New York City and co-director of the Small Business Resource Center, Norwalk Community College. Wyn has a B.A. in economics from the University of California, Santa Barbara, and an M.B.A. in finance and marketing from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. She helped found the nonprofit At Home in Darien and serves on the board. Wyn lives in Connecticut with her husband and has two adult children.

Arranged by Tom Lom

Wednesday, January 18

Dave Shafer, a local photographer and internationally recognized designer of optical systems, will



present “A Humorous Guide to Better Photography.” Asked to describe his talk, Dave said, “When Snow White sent her film to be developed, she said, ‘Someday my prints will come.’ ” He noted that times have changed. Film is gone now, and we need to refresh our picture-taking skills. The most valuable asset in photography is your eye, not the camera. He will show ways to improve your pictures by using some classic methods about photo composition. Many examples will include visual humor. If you have not taken any pictures since your old Brownie camera, you still can enjoy the stories in his talk. His main

claim to being a humorist is that after 51 years of marriage, he still can make his wife laugh. But that is only half of Dave’s story. He has spent the last 50 years designing camera lenses, telescopes and microscopes and now operates a one-man optical design and consulting firm. All of today’s state-of-the-art computer chips for cell phones, computers and tablets are made using a unique optical system invented by Dave 10 years ago. He has more than 125 patents for optical designs. One of his unusual telescopes went to Saturn a few years ago aboard the Cassini spacecraft. Another device took photos of the asteroid Vesta. And a spacecraft using his telescope was

launched with the goal of landing on a comet. He also designed a specialized stereo-viewing device for Salvador Dali.

Arranged by Tom Lom

Wednesday, January 25

Joe Schnierlein, research and university liaison representative with The Maritime Aquarium at Norwalk, will talk about the environmental impacts on Long Island Sound past, present and future. The Maritime Aquarium explores the many facets of the Sound, which is an extraordinary ecosystem that has supported the economy and culture of the region since prehistoric times. Some 20 million people live within a one-hour drive of the Sound. The effects of their actions make sustaining the natural functions of Long Island Sound a challenge. Its watershed covers five states and extends into Canada. Three major rivers and 59 smaller rivers and creeks empty into the Sound. Geographically, it is 113 miles long and 21 miles across at its widest point. Its average depth is 63 feet and holds about 18 trillion gallons of water. Joe has been involved in the sciences and education his entire career. His current work at the Aquarium includes serving as manager of professional development and assistant director of guest services. He began his career in 1970 as a teacher and then science department chairman at Brien McMahon High School. His many other teaching experiences include adjunct professor of marine biology at Norwalk Community College, adjunct professor of sciences at Sacred Heart University and chemical oceanographer for the Windward Oceanographic Institute. He is a former member of the Norwalk Shellfish Commission, the Norwalk Mayoral Water Quality Commission and the Norwalk Park Planning Committee.



Arranged by Tom Lom

Wednesday, February 1

Alison Nicholls is an artist inspired by Africa. Although she has traveled extensively throughout her life, Africa inspires her in ways unmatched by any other place. Her artistic work depicting Africa is based on field sketching, studio paintings and conservation sketching expeditions. Alison has found Africa to be a continent of diverse peoples and cultures, huge cities and dusty villages, vast deserts and thick forests, hot swamps and cold highlands, and home to some of the most iconic wildlife on the planet. Alison brings all this together using her artistic talents. Field sketching in pencil requires confidence and speed. It usually is done standing up or sitting in a vehicle. Decisions about light and composition must be made quickly. Another factor is that the person or animal being sketched can move out of sight at any time. Studio painting makes it possible to create the effects of light, color, dust and heat. Conservation sketching expeditions and resulting sketches and paintings help raise awareness and funds so that the sponsoring organization can continue its work. Alison leads art safaris in South Africa and is a signature member of Artists for Conservation, the Society of Animal Artists and the Explorers Club. Her art has been exhibited at the Botswana Mission to the United Nations. The U.S. Department of State used her art to promote the Coalition Against Wildlife Trafficking. Alison lives in Port Chester, N.Y., with her husband and a German shepherd named Chase.



Arranged by Tom Lom

Wednesday, February 8

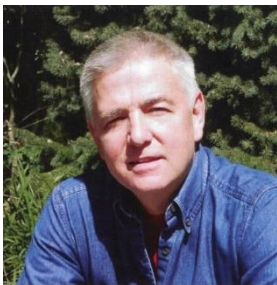
Jeff Cordulack will talk about the Northeast Organic Farming Association (NOFA), a nonprofit organization of more than 5,000 farmers, gardeners, landscape professionals and consumers in seven states. Jeff is executive director of the Connecticut Chapter of NOFA, whose goal is to educate farmers, gardeners, land care professionals and consumers about organic farming techniques using conferences, workshops, farm tours and printed materials. Jeff was raised in Darien and is interested in wildlife conservation, watershed protection, organic farming and sustainable living. He joined NOFA in 2015 after working for 10 years with the National Audubon Society in Greenwich. Prior to that, he worked for SoundWaters in Stamford for eight years. He has collaborated with many conservation organizations over the last two decades. In 2013, Jeff was a recipient of the Paul Keough Award presented by the Northeast Water Environment Association in recognition of his communications leadership to increase public awareness, understanding and personal actions to protect water quality and the environment. Jeff and his wife have three children and cultivate their own front-yard garden and organic lawn. He volunteers as the Schoolyard Habitat Steward for local schools and is chairperson for the Metro North chapter of Slow Food USA.



Arranged by Martin Skala

Wednesday, February 15

Robert H. Patton will talk about “The Self-Invention of General George S. Patton: Its Triumphs and Costs.” Robert, grandson of General Patton of World War II fame, examines the roots of Patton’s notable warrior persona against the backdrop of an inherited family destiny and a lifelong interest in classical literature, spiritualism and military history. General Patton’s willful transformation from an insecure child to a swaggering blood-and-guts commander enabled him to become one of America’s greatest wartime leaders. But the personal price that came with his triumph gives the story a human dimension left out of the history books. Before becoming an author, Robert worked as a Capitol Hill reporter, a commercial fisherman and a real estate developer. Then in 1994, he published his family memoir entitled *The Pattons: A Personal History of an American Family*. The book chronicles five generations of ancestors, culminating with General Patton. Robert has since published two history books and five novels. They include *Patriot Pirates*, about privateering during the Revolutionary War, and *Hell before Breakfast*, about America’s first international war correspondents. His latest book, *Cajun Waltz*, tells the tale of a colorful and violently troubled family in the Louisiana bayou from the Depression to the 1950s, published in 2016. He currently is working on a series of historical novels set in the world of colonial maritime conflict during the French and Indian War, the American Revolution and the War of 1812. Robert and his wife live in Darien and have four sons and five grandchildren.



Arranged by Kevin Davidson

Wednesday, February 22

Susan Granger, film critic, will talk about her new book, *150 Timeless Movies*. She last talked with us about the Oscar awards. Susan was born into a film-business family and was raised in Hollywood. She appeared as a child actress in movies with Abbott and Costello, Red Skelton, Lucille Ball and Lassie. For more than 25 years, she has been an on-air television and radio critic, bringing an experienced and unique perspective to the movie business. Her commentaries are distributed around the world by SSG Syndicate. In addition, her work has been published in *The New York Times*, *Redbook*, *Ladies Home Journal*, *Working Woman*, *Family Circle*, *Cosmopolitan* and numerous other publications. Susan also is the feature film critic for *Video Librarian* magazine, distributed to libraries throughout the country.



Arranged by Scott Hutchason

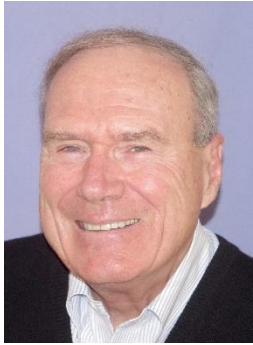
Membership

John Podkowsky, membership and hospitality chairman, reports that as of December 21, membership totaled 286, including 19 new members. Be sure to welcome them by introducing yourself. Below are photos and bios of recent new members.

Charlie Eaton was born in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1942 and grew up in Elyria, Ohio. He graduated from Brooks School in 1960 in North Andover, Mass., where he played football, basketball and baseball. He received an M.A. degree from Washington & Jefferson College in 1964 and was a member of Phi Gamma Delta and the ROTC, where he was named a Distinguished Military Graduate. He then served two years as a 1st Lieutenant in the U.S. Army Armor Branch and afterwards attended Columbia Business School, receiving an M.B.A. degree in 1968. That same year, he joined Morgan Guaranty Trust Company as an investment research officer. He went on to work for Wood, Walker & Co., H.C. Wainwright & Co., Morgan Stanley, and PaineWebber and Company. In 1983, he founded Eaton Partners, pioneering the concept of the “placement agent” that raises capital for investment funds. Based in Rowayton, today, it has 60 employees and seven offices worldwide and is recognized as the world’s leading placement agent. The company became a subsidiary of Stifel Financial Corp. in 2016. Charlie and his wife Judy live in Norwalk and have four adult children and four grandchildren. He is a member of Wee Burn Country Club, the Links Club and Brays Island Plantation, S.C. He enjoys golf, skiing, travel, charities and work. A former trustee of Washington & Jefferson College, he received the school’s Graduate Achievement Award in 2009 and the Entrepreneurial Achievement Award in 2016. He is active in Operation Comfort, San Antonio, Texas, and The Wounded Warrior Project that supports severely wounded veterans.



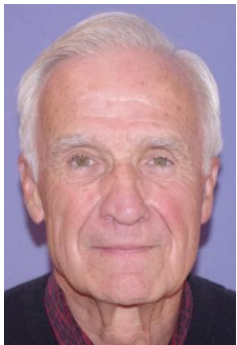
Mike Hoben was born in Torrington, Conn., in 1939 and graduated in 1957 from Milford (Conn.)



High School, where he was a member of the track team and played basketball in the summers in the American Legion League. He received a B.A. degree in finance in 1961 from Lehigh University, where he was on the track and boxing teams. He then served in the U.S. Air Force for four years, becoming a 1st Lieutenant. At the same time, he received an M.S. degree in economics from Arizona State University and later took graduate courses at New York University. Mike began his business career in 1965 with Chase Investment Managers Company, becoming a pension fund manager, and then joined T. Rowe Price in the same capacity. He later moved to Exxon Corporation, overseeing \$3 billion in pension funds. Prior to retiring in 2001, he was

president of Benefit Capital Management Corporation, overseeing \$6 billion in pension assets. Mike and his wife Joan live in Darien. They have three adult children and seven grandchildren. He is vice chairman of Gaylord Hospital and is a board member of the Diocese of Bridgeport and Lehigh University College of Arts & Sciences. He also is a member of the Order of Malta.

Jeff Neubert was born in Dixon, Ill., in 1942 and grew up in Indianapolis, Ind.; Rochester, N.Y.; and Greenwich, Conn. He attended McQuaid Jesuit High School in Rochester, N.Y., and graduated from St. Mary's High School, Greenwich, where he



played varsity basketball and was a member of the French Club. In 1964, he received a B.B.A. degree from the University of Notre Dame, where he played intramural sports and was a member of the Finance Club and chairman of Senior Weekend. He received an M.B.A. degree in 1965 from Babson College. Jeff began his business career in 1965 at General Foods, White Plains, N.Y. He then joined Citicorp/Citibank in St. Louis and New York City. He later went to work for Bank One/JPMorgan Chase in Columbus, Ohio. He then became CEO at The Clearing House in New York City, retiring in 2010.

He and his wife Prudence live in Darien and have three adult children and seven grandchildren. He is a member of Wee Burn Country Club and The Loxahatchee Club in Jupiter, Fla. Jeff enjoys golf, bridge, reading, cooking and vigorous daily exercise.

Bob Wolkwitz was born in Brooklyn, N.Y., in 1944 and graduated in 1961 from New Dorp High



School, Staten Island, N.Y. He started work in a landscaping company and later owned and operated a bookstore. In 1979, Bob began a career in plastics and chemicals with Philipp Brothers/Phibro Energy in New York City and Greenwich, Conn. He then joined MG Petrochemicals. He later founded Enserve International in Darien. In 1994, Enserve was acquired by Koch International, and Bob then became part of that organization. In 1999, Bob went to work for Louis Dreyfus Highbridge Energy in Wilton. He then joined Gama Polymers based in New York City and Istanbul, Turkey, and later worked at Noble Americas, Stamford, before retiring in 2012. Bob and his wife Robin

Ackerman live in Darien. He has four adult children and five grandchildren. He is a former drag racing driver and a member of National Hot Rod Association. He is a board member of the Darien Beautification Commission and enjoys gardening, fishing and travel.

Bob Noonan was born in 1943 in Pelham Manor, N.Y., and graduated from Pelham Memorial High School in 1961. He received a B.A. degree from Bucknell University and an M.B.A. degree from the University of Chicago Booth School of Business. He began his business career in the textile industry in Chicago and New York City. He then joined a private investment bank, Hambrecht & Quist, Inc., that went public in 1999. The company was acquired by Chase and later became JPMorgan Chase. He retired in 2008. Bob and his wife Erin have five adult children and 11 grandchildren spread across the country. He is a member of Woodway Country Club, Eagle Point Golf Club in Wilmington, N.C., and Riomar Country Club in Vero Beach, Fla. In addition to golf, Bob enjoys travel, gardening, beach time, good food and wine, and many friendships.



Jim Frayer was born 1945 in Jamaica, N.Y., and graduated in 1963 from Delehanty School, where he was senior class president. In 1967, he received a B.B.A. degree in economics from St. John's University and was a member of the Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity and the Ski Club. He also played intramural football and basketball. He received an honorable discharge from the U.S. Navy Reserve in 1967. That same year, Jim began his business career with American Machine and Foundry. He later joined the American Foreign Insurance Association and then Chesebrough-Ponds. In 1987, Jim became president of Coastal Management Corporation and later built and operated several marinas in Connecticut and New York. He then founded the nonprofit Association for Revitalization of Connecticut Harbors. In 1997, he joined Oleg Cassini Parfums and later Parsons Consulting. In 2007, he went to work for Citigroup, retiring in 2015. Jim and his wife Susan live in Rowayton and have two adult children. He is a founder and first commodore of Rowayton Yacht Club at Hickory Bluff. He also is a member of the National Audubon Society, St. John's church and Lifetime Learners at Norwalk Community College. He is a former trustee of Rowayton Library and Save the Sound and is a former member of the Long Island Sound Advisory Council. Jim enjoys travel, boating, reading, golf, tennis, platform tennis and hiking. He teaches a safe boating course that enables boat owners to qualify for a Connecticut Safe Boating certificate.



Mike Powell was born in Tuscaloosa, Ala., in 1946. The child of a U.S. Air Force parent, Mike lived in many towns before graduating in 1965 from James Madison High School, Vienna, Va., where he played football, was on the track team and was a member of the National Honor Society. In 1969, he graduated from Dartmouth College, cum laude with high distinction, with a degree in psychology and was a member of the Gamma Delta Chi fraternity. He worked in social service programs in Chicago and Boston before graduating from Harvard Business School in 1976. He then began a career in consumer products and went on to work for Scott Paper Co., Chesebrough-Ponds, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Zotos and Revlon. In 2000, he became co-partner and president of U.S. operations of



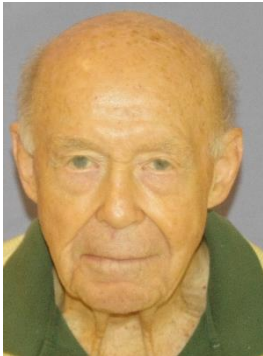
The Colomer Group, supplying products to the salon industry. He sold his interest in the company upon retiring in 2008. He is a past board member of the American Beauty Association. Mike and his wife Nancy live in Darien and have two adult children. He is a member of The Country Club

of Darien, Tokeneke Club and Mariner Sands Country Club, Stuart, Fla. He enjoys golf, skiing, walking, biking, gardening, travel, bridge, chess, reading and handyman projects.

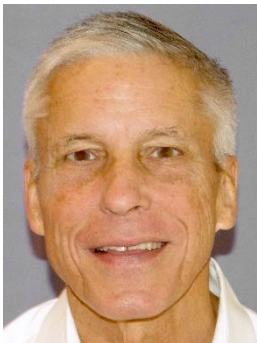
Patrick Steele was born in London, England, in 1948 and grew up in Berkshire, Hampshire and Libya. He graduated in 1965 from Radley College, the equivalent of high school in the United States. He then received a degree in French from the University de Neuchatel in Switzerland and later attended the Universidad de Madrid in Spain. Patrick began his 46-year-career in the insurance and reinsurance industry with H. Clarkson & Co. and went on to work for Chubb & Son, Pritchard & Baird, AFIA RE and James International Treaty Corporation. He then founded and served as president and CEO of Cooper Gay Steele, a treaty and facultative reinsurance intermediary, and later was president and owner of Rowayton Re LLC. He then joined Benfield Fac Solutions and later Axco Insurance Information Services. Today, he continues his interests in Rowayton Re LLC. Patrick and his wife Margaret live in Rowayton and, together, have three adult children and six grandchildren. He is a member of Rowayton Yacht Club at Hickory Bluff and the Darien Rotary. He also is a member of the United Church of Rowayton, where he sings in the choir and is a former lay leader and chairman of the board of deacons. Patrick is an avid sailor and also enjoys skiing, hiking, travel, and good food and wine.



Dave McKee, M.D., was born in Boston, Mass., in 1930 and grew up in New York City. He graduated from Taft School in 1948, where he was on the wrestling and rugby teams. He received a B.S. degree in English in 1952 from Yale University, where he took premed courses and was on the wrestling and rugby teams. In 1959, he received an M.D. degree from the New York University School of Medicine. Upon completing his residency with a specialty in ear, nose and throat, he began a practice in Stamford, retiring in 2000. Dave has two children and two grandchildren. He is a former president of the Connecticut State Medical Society and a member of the Field Club of Greenwich, the Campfire Club of America and the Darien YMCA. He enjoys travel, music and bridge.



Russell Stanley was born in Jamaica, N.Y., in 1943. He grew up in Huntington, N.Y., and graduated from St. Dominic High School in 1960, where he played intramural sports. He received a B.A. degree from Cornell University in 1964 and was a member of Phi Kappa Sigma and played intramural sports. He received an M.B.A. degree from Adelphi University in 1970. He began his business career with MetLife Insurance in private placement financing. From 1972-2006, he was a bond salesman with Kidder, Peabody & Co., E.F. Hutton, Smith Barney and J.P. Morgan. He later became a wealth advisor for J.P. Morgan and Citibank and today holds that position with Wells Fargo. Russell and his wife Judy live in Norwalk and have three children and seven grandchildren. He enjoys sports and bridge.



Christmas Cocktail Party *Photos by Gregory Glashan and Bob Smith*



Smiling faces reflected the joyfulness of the season and the evening's events.



Blue Notes singing group with Joe Holmes on the electronic keyboard livened up the evening.

DMA Members Out and About



Pickleball, Tues. & Thurs., 9:30 a.m., Mather Center.



Bell ringers outside Palmer's Market.



Hikers at Greenwich Point Park. Eighteen turned out for the last hike of the year. One hiker took photo.



Yale Center for British Art was captivating.



Brewery stop on way home. Viewing art is thirsty work.

Darien Men's Association Newsletter
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