

DMA

Newsletter

[DMA Website is www.DarienDMA.org](http://www.DarienDMA.org)

Darien Men's Association

May – June 2021

President's Message

It appears that I will be the first, and hopefully the last, DMA President to never have presided over an in-person meeting.

Fortunately, this incredible organization is doing fine. We all miss the friendly greeting by good friends at the DCA. Usually it starts with a "good morning" in the parking lot, then a busy lobby and then a shoulder-to-shoulder crowd in the Garden Room. Pastry crumbs, spilled coffee, noise, and last-minute business - I miss it all. With everyone vaccinated it looks like we've turned the corner - medically, psychologically and regulation wise.

The Wednesday meet-ups are a start to recovery. It's nice to see people. Wanderings (**Joe Spain, David Mace**) and Hikes (**Dave McCollum, Bob Plunkett**) have become more relaxed - you can actually talk to someone without a mask and not fear being contaminated. The town now permits gatherings at the beach so **Alex Garnett** is thinking about a picnic at some point over the summer.

Bowling (**Tom Lom, Gehr Brown**) remains popular with weekly reports that make the sport seem exciting. Interest in Pickleball (**Jan Selkowitz**) exceeds



court availability. Jan has pushed Parks & Rec to expand the number of courts.

Bridge (**John Podkowsky**) has been online. Not as social, but Bridgebase keeps score, never miss-plays, reminds people whose play it is, and deals quickly. (There is a debate if the deals are random or juiced.)

Cribbage (**Geoff Rezek**) was started as a new activity. There will be Golf (**Peter Carnes**) over the summer. Book Group (**Harris Hester, Tom Igoe**), Investments (**Jim Phillips**), Money Matters (**Doug Campbell**) and Current Affairs (**Bob Baker**) are all thriving. In fact, attendance has been so good we'll have to think about venues when we do go back to in-person. Or maybe hybrid meetings are here to stay.

Harry Bergen opens with a song. **Mike Wheeler** breaks up meetings with a poll and **Tom Lom** always has a joke. Community Affairs (**Mike Heitz**) has organized an Earth Day clean up and it looks like we'll be marching in the Memorial Day Parade.

The speakers (**Bryan Hooper**) have been great. Thanks to everyone who was a speaker or arranged a speaker. In fact, Zoom has opened up a much

larger world of potential speakers. We're asking a lot to get speakers to come to Darien even if they live in the region.

The DCA is upgrading their technology infrastructure so hybrid meetings look doable. Hybrid means some speakers and some members attend virtually on Zoom. It will take some experimentation to see what works.

Lastly, I'd like to thank the people who make things run. **Tony Yezzi** at

Treasury, **Tom Igoe** as editor of This Week at DMA, **Bryan Hooper** with speaker writeups, **Art Baron** with electronic records and mailings, **Harry Bergen** with Membership, **Charles Salmans** with the Newsletter and Directory, and **Jim Cameron** at TV79. Thank you. It has been an honor.

Gary Banks
President

Speakers

Wednesday, May 5, 2021
"Little Sister"



Patricia Walsh Chadwick will speak to us about her upbringing in Cambridge at Saint Benedict Center, which was established in 1940 as a community of devout Catholics committed to fellowship and faith but developed over two decades later into a rigid, sequestered religious sect headed by an excommunicated priest and his cohort, a staunchly Catholic married woman with a puritanical streak. Patricia was one of 39 children raised in this cult and she has written on her experience in *Little Sister: A Memoir*, a story of indoctrination, fear, suffering, resilience, love and grace. In her presentation she will discuss how she rose above the shame and demons of her past, built

a prosperous career in finance and investments, married and raised two wonderful, now adult, children.

Patricia was born in Cambridge, Massachusetts. She received her BA in Economics from Boston University, and began her financial-services career in 1972, worked at the Ford Foundation from 1976 to 1980, then joined Citicorp Investment Management that year. In 1988, the group was sold to USF&G – and re-named Chancellor Capital Management. By 1991, Chancellor was an employee-owned asset-management business, which was acquired by Invesco in 1998. Developing over the years, Ms. Chadwick's career at Invesco culminated in the management of a \$15 billion asset business. She retired at the end of 1999 as a Global Partner of Invesco, and founded Ravengate Partners LLC, a consulting firm dedicated to providing businesses and not-for-profit institutions with education and advice about the financial markets and the global economy. She is currently working on her next book, which covers the financial industry.

Arranged by Bryan Hooper

Wednesday, May 12, 2021

The Status in Washington



Jim Himes represents Connecticut's 4th District in the United States House of Representatives where he is serving his seventh term. He serves as the Chair of the National Security, International Development and Monetary Policy Subcommittee of the House Financial Services Committee.

Born in Lima, Peru in 1966 to American parents, he spent the early years of his childhood in Peru and Colombia while his father worked for the Ford Foundation and UNICEF. As an American abroad, Jim grew up fluent in both Spanish and English and was raised with an awareness of the unique position of the United States in the world. At the age of ten, he

moved with his mother and sisters to the United States.

Jim graduated from Hopewell Valley Central High School and then attended Harvard University. After completing his undergraduate work, he earned a Rhodes Scholarship and attended Oxford University in England, where he continued his studies of Latin America, including research in El Salvador. He began his professional career at Goldman Sachs & Co. and worked his way up to Vice President over the course of a 12-year career. There he worked extensively in Latin America and headed the bank's telecommunications technology group.

Prior to his service in Congress, Jim ran the New York City branch of The Enterprise Community Partners, a nonprofit dedicated to addressing the unique challenges of urban poverty. His team led the way in financing the construction of thousands of affordable housing units in the greater New York metropolitan region. Jim's experience at Enterprise spurred his involvement in politics. Putting his expertise in affordable housing to work, he served as a Commissioner of the Greenwich Housing Authority, ultimately chairing the board and leading it through a much-needed program of reforms. Jim went on to become an elected member of his town's finance board, setting tax and budget policy for Greenwich. He has also served as Chair of his local Democratic Town Committee, organizing others in the community to become more active in the political process.

Jim lives in Greenwich with his wife Mary (and not frequent enough visits from his daughters Emma and Linley).

Arranged by Bryan Hooper

Wednesday, May 19, 2021

Discovering Truth: How we are being brainwashed into polarized beliefs that endanger America



Tim Love is former Vice-Chairman of Omnicom Group, a leading global advertising and marketing services company. He is a James Webb Young Fellow with a Masters in Communication from the University of Illinois, and has a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a minor in Fine Arts from Miami University in Ohio.

He retired in 2013 as CEO of the Asia Pacific, India, Middle East and Africa regions. During his 42-year career in the advertising industry Tim earned his brand-building credentials on some of the world's largest and most successful brands, including P&G,

PepsiCo and Johnson & Johnson.

Following his retirement, Tim taught an MBA elective on "Global Branding and Communication" at Oxford's Saïd School of Business. In addition to Oxford, he has lectured at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy in Singapore, Harvard, Yale School of Management, Columbia University, the University of Illinois, Miami University in Ohio, Northeastern, Savannah College of Art and Design, Mudra Institute of Communications in India and Ave Maria University.

Until 2017 he was on the faculty of the US Marketing Communications College, a pro-bono initiative at the Foreign Service Institute of the US State Department. He is currently Chairman of the Board of Advisors of BoomAgers, a marketing communications agency focused on the +50 year-old generation. He is also an advisor to Amsety, makers of the first nutrition bar that supports liver health.

His 2016 book "*The Book That Gets Better With Age*" has won six literary awards in the category of "health & aging" and is available on Amazon.com.

Arranged by John Bassler

Wednesday, May 26, 2021

Medieval/Modern: John D. Rockefeller, Jr. and the Creation of The Cloisters



Dr. C. Griffith Mann will discuss the role played by Rockefeller in the development of the Cloisters. The Metropolitan Museum of Art possesses the finest, most comprehensive collection of Medieval and Byzantine art in the western hemisphere. It is held in two locations: the galleries of the Met's main building on 5th Avenue and The Met Cloisters in Fort Tryon Park. John D. Rockefeller, Jr. (1874-1960) provided funds that enabled The Metropolitan Museum of Art to purchase the Cloisters museum and its collections from George Grey Barnard in 1925.

Dr. Mann was appointed The Metropolitan Museum of Art's Michel David-Weill Curator in Charge of the Department of Medieval Art and the Met Cloisters in September, 2013.

In this role, he is responsible for the medieval collections and curatorial staff in the Met's main building, and for directing the staff and operations of the Met Cloisters, the branch of the Metropolitan Museum dedicated to the art and architecture of medieval Europe. Dr. Mann received his B.A. in art history and history from Williams College, and his Ph.D. in medieval art from The Johns Hopkins University. A specialist in the arts of late medieval Italy, he has published on civic patronage, painting, and devotion in Tuscany. As a curator, Dr. Mann has worked on exhibitions on the medieval cult of relics, the art and archaeology of medieval Novgorod, and French manuscript illumination of the 13th century. He formerly served as the Chief Curator and Deputy Director at The Cleveland Museum of Art, where he helped to lead the museum's reinstallation, acquisition, and exhibition programs, and as medieval curator and Director of the Curatorial Division at The Walters Art Museum, where he worked on exhibitions and the permanent collection.

Arranged by Bryan Hooper

In Memoriam



David H. Crandall died peacefully on March 13 with family by his side. He was 89 years old.

Born in Oswego, NY, Dave raised his family in Darien where he was exceptionally active in the life of the community, from church vestry member to volunteer firefighter. He also served on various town committees ultimately becoming Chairman of the Board of Finance for the Town of Darien.

After graduating from Colgate University in 1953 and then serving as a captain in the Marine Corps, Dave met Jane Fox in New York City. They married in 1959. Together they raised four children in

Darien. Dave may be most remembered for his genuine connection with people.

Regardless of one's station in life, Dave had an easy way of bonding with anyone.

When you spoke to him, you knew he cared about you.

Dave and his family were long-time members of St. Luke's Parish in Darien where he served as senior warden among other volunteer roles. That participation in the church led to further involvement with the Berkeley Divinity School at Yale University where he served as Board Chair from 1991-99 and received an honorary doctorate degree in 1999. In business Dave built a successful career in real estate.

No remembrance of Dave would be complete without mentioning his passion for fire engines. Having served as a volunteer fireman with Noroton Fire Department, Dave loved everything about firefighting. His boyhood fascination never left him.

Dave was an avid sailor. Some of his happiest memories were sailing with his family on Long Island Sound and Buzzards Bay.

In addition to his wife Jane, Dave is survived by his four children, six grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

New Member



William G. (Randy) Tankoos was born in New York City in 1947 and his family soon moved to Old Greenwich and then 18 months later to Darien where he has lived ever since. He graduated in 1965 from Canterbury School and in 1969 from Yale College with a BS in Administrative Sciences. He later received an MBA from University of Bridgeport. Drafted in 1970, he served in the Army at Fort Dix. On discharge he worked for a yacht rigger before purchasing a metal fabricating business in Stamford. After ten years as an entrepreneur, he sold that business and has since been with the AH Emery Company (currently Emery Winslow Scale Company).

In 1976 Randy married Linda Herdich and they have two sons, Ryan and Grant. Son Ryan and his wife Loni are the proud parents of Randy's two grandsons Ronan and Logan. Linda and Randy were divorced in 2006.

Randy has sailed extensively offshore on large boats since he was 13. He was the youngest crew member at 15 for the 1962 Bermuda Race, paired with the eldest woman on that race, aboard Cotton Blossom IV. Since then, Randy has completed a dozen or more Newport to Bermuda Races, several Annapolis-Newport and Marblehead-Halifax races, and several SORC circuits. His longest offshore trip, 15 days at sea, was with his son Grant to deliver a 40' boat from Charleston, S.C., to Canouan in the Grenadines. Randy has been a member of the Storm Trysail Club, New York Yacht Club, Norwalk Yacht Club and Noroton Yacht Club where he served as Commodore between 2011 and 2013. In that role, he worked the club out of the destruction caused by Irene and Sandy and was co-chair of the Building Committee to build a new clubhouse. He continues to share and sail a 23' Sonar at Noroton. When not sailing he has a 28' power boat to cruise extensively on the east coast and Hudson River/Lake Champlain.

Activities

Resuming Controlled Face to Face Socializing



As we entered April, most DMA members were fully vaccinated against Covid, and with the permission of the Darien Community Association we were able to gather in the garden – maintaining appropriate distance from one another and staying masked except for the photos. It was great to see each other in a format other than a computer screen.

March Madness Winners



David Mace provided a photo of three of the four March Madness winners. **Kevin Davidson**, the tournament winner who collected \$100, was in Florida. From the left are **Joe Spain**, **Greg Glashan**, and **Bob Plunkett**. All the prize winners accumulated their points through choosing mid-range teams who went further in the play-offs than the NCAA tournament selection committee expected they would, thus proving the wisdom of the late **John Barston's** advice to avoid picking the top-ranked teams. However, **Kevin** took the top prize despite the fact that he picked UConn as the winner. The Huskies got knocked out in the first round. **Taylor Strubinger** and **Bill Bellis** did all the counting that produced the winners.

Money Matters



Doug Campbell reports that the Money Matters discussion in March featured a presentation on “What does it take to settle your estate?” by Bill Ostendorf. It was an extensive and thorough review of the process and its many finer points. With recent proposals to raise the estate tax rate and lower the exemption, this subject is likely to be a future subject if legislation advances on the proposed changes. In April, Conor Coleman spoke on Technologies for Homes and Clubs. His company, Realm Technologies

(www.realmcontrol.com), handles every aspect of a building or renovation project that touches a wire. Clients include high-end residential homes and the Weeburn and New Canaan Country clubs.

Bowling



Tom Lom reports that DMA bowlers have had an eventful last two months. In early March, two of our regulars, **Alex Garnett** and **Frank DeLeo**, joined for the first time this season following lengthy stints on "injured reserved" with surgical repairs to shoulders and hips. Both wasted no time returning to "mid-season" form. Frank bowled a 200 game his first day back. Two weeks later, Alex had his best day anyone could recall when he bowled a three-game series of 562. Of note, in games two and three that day, Alex bowled over 200 in both making a strike or spare in every frame...that's 20 in a row!!

That same morning, **Gehr Brown** also put on a fantastic display of bowling. His series total was 630; that's an average of 210! In his 30 frames over three games, Gehr had 18 strikes. Eleven other times he knocked down nine on his first ball. It was quite a display.

The week before, **George Gilliam** bowled his best series ever with a 559. George's season average going in to the day was 140 which means his average series is 420. This day George was on fire highlighted by a second game 209. George has bowled six games of 200 or better this season. But a three-game series of 559 would be 139 above his three-game average for the year. That's +139!!! It must be a DMA record.

Pickleball



Jan Selkowitz reports that as the weather has improved it seems the quality of Pickleball has as well. Joe Holmes is back from Florida and Chris Filmer has recovered from a long injury. Both are excellent players pushing the quality of play higher. Pickleballers are anxiously awaiting to find out when our present two courts at Cherry Lawn will turn into four newly constructed courts. This will allow more DMA participants. For those who have never played

and would like to be involved with the fastest growing racket/paddle sport, the Darien Parks and Recreation is giving a series of lessons.

Photo: Jack Dearie and Nancy Crowley on the near side take on Jan Selkowitz and Rita Butler on the far side.

Book Discussion Group



In March, the Book Discussion Group met through Zoom to discuss *Unsinkable – Five Men and The Indomitable Run of The USS Plunkett* by James Sullivan. The USS Plunkett was the only ship to participate in all five of the European landings during WW II. It was much more than a book about a ship though, as we get to know the main protagonists.

In April, **Tom Igoe** was among those sharing thoughts as the group read an unusual book about a fictional slave escaping from Barbados in a balloon and his

adventures in the US and Canada – *Washington Black* by Esi Edugyan.

Harris Hester reports that the book to be discussed on May 12th is *The Code Breaker: Jennifer Doudna, Gene Editing, and the Future of the Human Race* by Walter Isaacson. Jennifer Doudna and her collaborators invented CRISPR, an easy-to-use tool that may transform the human race. CRISPR opened a new world of medical miracles and moral questions. It is a well written book that reduces the scientific jargon to a minimum; yet explains a highly technical process. An interview of the author discussing this book is available at: <https://www.crowdcast.io/e/walter-isaacson-in/register>. The book for June, to be discussed on June 9th, is *A Promised Land* by Barack Obama. It is a rather long book and is the first volume of his presidential memoirs. Crisply written with unique and thoughtful insight to his first term, it offers a thoughtful exploration of the dynamics of partisan politics and the limits of presidential power.

Note: The Book Group will “Go Dark” during July and August, with our regular discussion starting again on September 8 at 2 p.m. (And then resuming the usual schedule of 2 p.m. on the second Wednesday of every month.)

Current Affairs

Bob Baker reports that interesting discussions, led by DMA members with personal experiences, were held in March and April.



In March, **Jim Phillips** led a discussion of the US economic outlook, including impact of the Covid relief package – it's intended results and the possible impact on investment and employment. At the time of the discussion, most investment experts were adjusting the U.S. growth rate and interest rate outlook upward, and there were many who were projecting a real GDP growth rate of 6.5% to 7% -- a remarkable recovery. Offsetting that was the unemployment rate which continues to be high because a lot of people have not been looking for a job – including some four million women who were not included because they dropped out for child care as schools remained closed. If vaccination becomes widespread, the service industry, hard hit, may rebound, and with schools open many women can again begin looking for a job. Among the topics covered were permanent shifts in behavior such as reduced need for office space due to the experience of working from home, and reduced business travel. Both employers and employees have learned that many tasks can be done virtually.



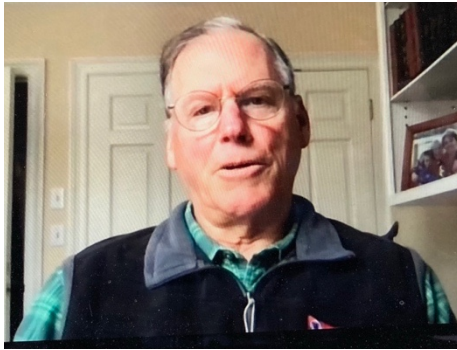
In April, **Henry Cavanna** led a discussion on Modern Monetary Theory (MMT), which downplays the importance attached to Federal deficits. The theory is not fully accepted by the economic community, and some have characterized it as “socialized capitalism.” U.S. debt is rising to 100% of GDP and the country's debt is forecast to double over the next 30 years. Henry explained that under MMT deficits are recognized as a problem when they spark inflation. But there is no great need to fix the debt as long as a country issues it in their own currency. The proponents of MMT point out that debt accumulation is happening at a time

when interest rates are historically low, but they have been low for the decades since the 1980s. Many forecast that budget deficits won't create unacceptable inflation for twenty years. Importantly, will the deficits be used to spur productivity and innovation? U.S. growth has been spurred by technology and productivity gains. Japan, in contrast, has been stagnant because the deficits have financed current expenditure, not investment in infrastructure or other productivity enhancements. Finally, one unknown is the rise of Bitcoin, which reflects less confidence in the U.S. dollar as a reserve currency.

On Thursday, May 20 at 11 a.m., **Charles Salmans** will lead a discussion on the status of the Covid pandemic, the challenges to control the virus worldwide, possible mutations that could elude current vaccines or require booster shots, and what we have learned that could inform contingency planning for future disease outbreaks.

Bob Baker has done an outstanding job managing the Current Events discussions for years and is now passing the responsibility to **Mark Nunan** and **Mike Wheeler**.

Investment Discussion Group



Jim Phillips reports that the Investment Discussion Group spent the March and April sessions focused on investment strategies under the Biden administration. Infrastructure was the primary focus, but not just basic infrastructure like roads and bridges. The discussion covered 5G and broadband, improvements to the electric grid, cybersecurity and renewable energy. Contributions came from many members which added to the conversation. **Dennis Leibowitz** provided specific insights on several recovery media plays --

i.e., CNK, DISCA, VIAC and DIS. Our resident “green energy” experts, **Art Baron** and **Chip Schroeder**, added useful insights. We also covered bitcoin, but it is clear our generation doesn’t trust it...yet.

We plan to continue Zoom meetings the first Monday of each month at 10 a.m. unless there is a compelling reason to change before the Fall. Attendance is clearly greater with the Zoom format, but it would be good to resume at least some in-person meetings at a later date. The next meeting is May 3rd.

Bridge

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John Podkowsky reminds everyone that the DMA Bridge Group meets online every Tuesday at 1:00 p.m. *Be at home, play from home.* There are currently 14 regular players plus subs when needed. Each week we have 12 bridge players divided into 6 teams playing at 3 separate tables. Scores are tracked every week, with the top teams announced at our weekly meeting. Additionally, scores are tracked cumulatively by quarter and the top three players announced at the end of each quarter.

For the quarter ending March 30, the top 3 DMA bridge players were: #1 John Podkowsky; #2 Joe Holmes; and #3 Tom Gildersleeve. A fresh round began April 6, with Gary Banks #1, Bob Baker #2, and George Gilliam #3 taking an early lead at the quarter pole. Banks, Baker, and Gilliam each had two of the three top boards, with

slams bid and made, and some more made but unfortunately not bid. Examples of huge bridge hands can be seen above.

New players are always welcome. You do not have to be a great player, just be familiar with the game. If interested, contact John at 203 329.8181 or jpod912@aol.com and he will slot you in at one of our tables.

Bridge Base is available at <https://www.bridgebase.com/>. Start by creating a free account including your BridgeBase ID. Note there are practice tutorials if it has been a while since you played. A YouTube tutorial can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7V1CSXat7no>.

Hiking



Dave McCollum reports that hiking resumed in March when the group met at Waveny Park in New Canaan, a 300-acre complex that contains extensive woodlands and structures that were originally the Lapham Estate. The group covered a distance of 2 ½ miles of woodland and parkland trails.



In April, on an unseasonably cold and windy morning, **Dave** reports that twelve intrepid DMAers and guests hiked 2.8 miles in under two hours over spectacular terrain at the Greenwich Audubon Center. This is a 285-acre property which also serves as the education center. Located on land donated by the Clovis family, the center's trails traverse meadows, hardwood forests, lakes and some awesome rocks and ravines. Despite the heavy downpour the previous day, the trails were

largely dry or just damp. With the leaves still not out, the varied topography of the center was in full view. What was not in view was wildlife! We saw a grand total of one robin and a chipmunk! All the hikers were totally up to the steep (160 vertical feet) path from the lake area to the parking lot.

The group agreed that this is a property that should be on our regular hiking rotation. Our final hike of the spring season will take place at Ward Pound Reservation in Cross River, NY in late May.

Happy Wanderers

Derby, Connecticut in March



In March, **Joe Spain** and **David Mace** led the **Wanderers** on a tour of Derby, Connecticut. Derby likes to think of itself as the smallest city in our state. But for those who settled at the confluence of the Housatonic and Naugatuck rivers, the advantageous location has always caused residents to think big. The area was settled by the Paugussett and Pootatuck Indians

before the European settlers arrived in the 1600s. Fur traders from New Haven came first and a trading post was established at Derby Docks in 1642. By 1681 a water-powered grist mill was operating in the town. By 1870 a great dam was completed on the Housatonic River that provided power to the growing industrial hub. The city of Derby was chartered in 1893. Today there are attractive, well preserved Victorian homes around a center green just above the rivers that provided a lovely walk.

Groton, Connecticut in April



Joe Spain reports that in April, eleven Wanderers carpooled to Groton at the Battle Monument that was erected in 1830-31, fifty years after the Battle of Groton Heights.

The battle began about 9 a.m. on September 6, 1781, when a fleet of British troop ships sailed into the mouth of the Thames

River after an overnight trip from Long Island, hoping to mount a surprise attack. The force of 1,700 British regulars was commanded by turncoat General Benedict Arnold, who was raised in Norwich, north of Groton, and who had served ably under George Washington prior to going over to the other side.

Half the troops in the British raiding force landed on the west side of the river in New London and, led by Arnold, pillaged and burned the town. The remaining British troops landed on the east side of the Thames, where 164 local patriots and militia had gathered to defend Fort Griswold. Led by Colonel William Ledyard, the patriots were ready for the onslaught but were overwhelmed by the larger British force. Among the defenders, casualties were high and 85, including their commander, were killed.

Across the street from the 135-foot-high granite monument to the fallen local patriots is Fort Griswold, the place of the battle. The group walked around the large earthen

redoubt and saw a panoramic view of the River. Next, the group explored several nearby streets to see some of the many historic houses in the town and had an outside lunch at Puffin's Restaurant on a terrace overlooking the river and the New London ferry terminal.

After lunch, the Wanderers drove to Groton's Avery Point, the eastern promontory at the mouth of the Thames. On the way the group passed The Electric Boat Division of General Dynamics, where US Navy submarines have been designed and built for nearly 100 years, and the Research Division of Pfizer pharmaceuticals, a firm frequently in the news for Covid vaccine. The Avery Point Campus of the University of Connecticut was established about 50 years ago on land that formerly was the seaside estate of wealthy industrialist and local benefactor Morton Freeman Plant. The campus has many impressive academic buildings, some of which house the University's Departments of Marine Science and Oceanographic Studies. But the highlight of the walk was the large and lavish Branford House, Mr. Plant's granite Gothic summer mansion built in 1903 and preserved today by the University as an event site and art gallery.

The next Wandering will be in late May for an exploration of the Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge in southeast Queens, operated by the U.S. National Park Service.

DMA Earth Day Cleanup



Mike Heitz organized two events to make Darien, a little part of our planet, a bit more beautiful. To mark Earth Day in April, volunteers gathered on a Saturday morning at Stony Brook Park, an attractive little park with a cascade and an entrance on Ledge Road. Although the park borders on



the town dump, much of the trash was found near the entrance where there was evidence that it serves as a hangout for those who want to gather for a beer. (Most likely, a younger crowd for this purpose than the DMA membership, and no one on the cleanup team admitted to having visited the property before.) The park is long and narrow, following a creek, and is quite bucolic.

The same afternoon, a group gathered at Pear Tree Beach at low tide. The beach itself was pretty clean, so cleanup volunteers focused on the flotsam and jetsam in the bay behind the beach and along Pear Tree Road.

Mark Your Calendar – Details on DMA Website

May 12 – Book Club. *The Code Breaker* by Walter Isaacson. Zoom Meeting at 2 p.m.

May 20 – Current Affairs. Covid: Where We Stand and What is Ahead (Charles Salmans). Zoom Meeting at 11 a.m.

May 25 – Happy Wanderers outing to Jamaica Bay wildlife refuge (David Mace and Joe Spain)

May 31 – DMA to march in Memorial Day parade. (To be confirmed as town event).

June 7 -- Investment Discussion Group. Zoom Meeting at 10 a.m.

June 9 – Book Club. *A Promised Land* by Barack Obama. Zoom Meeting at 2 p.m.

Check the website, DarienDMA.org, for events including Zoom sessions. Bowling and, subject to the weather, outdoor pickleball continue with social distancing. Contact the activity leaders for additional information.

Darien Men's Association Newsletter

Editor and Publisher, *Charles Salmans.* **Copyeditor,** *Tom Igoe.* **New member bios,** *Charles Salmans.* **Speaker Summaries,** *Bryan Hooper.* **Mailing list,** *Art Baron.* **E-communications and This Week at DMA,** *Tom Igoe.* **Webmaster,** *Gary Banks.*

Activity Representatives

For those activities over Zoom, dates and times apply unless otherwise amended. Locations refer to venues when resumption of in-person meetings is possible.

Book Club, Harris Hester, 655.2309 and Tom Igoe, 655.6170
2nd Wednesday, 2 p.m.

Bowling, Tom Lom, 655.0686 and Gehr Brown, 655.3713
Tuesdays, 9 a.m., Nutmeg Lanes, Fairfield

Bridge, John Podkowsky, 329.8181
Tuesdays, 1 p.m. Online

Cribbage, Geoff Rezek, 820.7077
As organized online

Current Affairs, Bob Baker, 655.9553
3rd Thursday, 11 a.m.

Golf, Peter Carnes, 655.9518
As announced at meetings and through eblasts

Happy Wanderers, David Mace, 655.7555 and Joe Spain, 655.1264
As announced at meetings and through eblasts

Hiking, Dave McCollum, 853.7080 and Bob Plunkett 246.2898
As announced at meetings and through eblasts

Investment Discussion Group, Jim Phillips, 722.2787
1st Monday, 10 a.m.

Money Matters, Doug Campbell, 975.0320
3rd Tuesday at 10 a.m.

Pickleball, Jan Selkowitz, 655.0441
Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays 9:30 a.m. at Cherry Lawn

Songsters, Joe Holmes, 838.8744
As announced

Woodworking, Tom Williams, 655.7398
Mondays, Tuesdays, 9:30 a.m., Mather Senior Center when reopened