

DMA

Newsletter

DMA Website is now at www.DarienDMA.org

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Darien Men's Association

May-June 2019

March Madness Winners



Each year on the run up to the NCAA finals, **John Barston** outlines the strategy for winning the DMA March Madness pool. (Hint: Place your faith in some Cinderella teams. Loading up your brackets with top seeds will never win the pot.) John and **Bill Bellis** have been running the contest for years. This year's winner of \$100 was **Alex Garnett**, and also collecting cash prizes of \$50 were **Tom Taylor, Bill Close, Bill Bellis, and Bob Howe**. There was a tie for 6th place shared by **Jim Kelly, Dick Paterniti, John Schlachtenhaufen, and Bob Hughes** (\$8.75 each).

President's Message

As I write this letter, Easter and Passover have been observed – sure signs of spring. It's remarkable that DMA has nearly completed another year of meetings and presentations. These events are supported by an extensive cast of characters that not only includes the Board and Committees but all of you “Unsung Heroes” in the membership who work hard to bring our activities together into a whole, which greatly exceeds the sum of its parts.

Our traditional efforts, including Speakers, Events, Activities, our Christmas Party



(weren't the Tudor Singers spectacular?) and Spring Picnic (what a better way to break for the summer!), have become even more successful. And we've gone to plays and art exhibits, sailed again on the Sound, learned how aircraft carriers evolved from a flat wooden deck bolted atop an aging coal ship to today's behemoths, even watched sausage being made right before our eyes in Hartford (and discussed how our state might emerge, we hope and pray, from the black hole on whose edge it is teetering). We've been sobered by

Connecticut's drug challenges, read classics, become better informed and been pleasantly entertained. We've learned how even a pile of bricks and mortar on the corner of Vanderbilt and 42nd Street could not have been given form and even a soul but for architects and engineers with the Solomonic skills to successfully herd all the myriad competing interests together by capturing their collective imaginations.

As you walk back for coffee, tea and goodies during our remaining breaks this spring, be sure to thank those who've contributed to this

year's success. Better yet, strike up a new relationship or improve an existing one and, together, find a way to become more involved.

We look forward to seeing you at the Spring Picnic. Have a great summer. As you travel about, remember that a core DMA strength is its speakers. Accordingly, keep your ideas flowing to Gary Banks. He still has several openings.

John Wolcott, President

Speakers

Wednesday, May 1, 2019



Draggan Mihailovich will speak about what goes into making a successful production of the TV program “60 Minutes,” of which he has been part of the CBS Sports team for the past 21 years. He gets involved in all aspects of the program – from conception to casting to writing to editing. He’ll relate a number of interesting examples from his many years of experience. He’ll also talk about his favorite story of all time: a segment he produced during his tenure at CBS Sports on Louis Zamperini, which was the inspiration for the bestselling book, *Unbroken*. Draggan started his network television career at ABC Sports in 1984, where he worked on the Sarajevo Winter Olympics, the Los Angeles Summer Olympics and the Calgary Winter Olympics. In 1988, CBS Sports hired him to produce features for the next three Winter Olympics: Albertville, France; Lillehammer, Norway; and Nagano, Japan. Since joining the broadcast in May 1998, he has won 11 Emmy Awards, four of them for his work as a feature producer at CBS Sports. Draggan, a native of Chapel Hill, N.C., now lives in Stamford. *Arranged by Sunil Saxena*

Wednesday, May 8, 2019



Dr. Edward Schuster will speak on preventative cardiology and aging successfully. He is a Stamford cardiologist and internist who has practiced in this area for almost 40 years. A graduate of the Chicago Medical School, he completed his residency at Duke and a Fellowship in Cardiology at Johns Hopkins Hospital. During his career, he has received several honors. For the past 15 years, he has appeared on the List of Best Doctors not only in Connecticut but in the entire country. Dr. Schuster has extensive teaching experience with both the house staff at Stamford Hospital and medical students from Columbia Presbyterian Hospital. He developed the EMS system in Stamford and the use of defibrillators

throughout the city. He specializes in all aspects of cardiology with an emphasis on prevention and aging successfully. In his talk, drawing on this experience as well as medical studies, he will be giving between 30 to 40 tips as to how we can live to be 110 without disabilities. *Arranged by Sunil Saksena*

Wednesday, May 15, 2019



George Colt will be speaking about his latest book, *The Game: Harvard, Yale, and America in 1968*, which tells the story of the 1968 Harvard-Yale football game, the legendary 29-29 tie that is on nearly every list of the top 10 most exciting games in college gridiron history. Although the book includes a detailed description of the game itself, this is a story about more than football. It's a narrative about a watershed year in American history (the assassination of Martin Luther King and Bobby Kennedy, rioting at the Democratic National Convention, the Tet Offensive and increasing racial tension, not to mention sex, drugs and rock 'n' roll) as navigated by a group of young men by the

contrasting institutions they attended. In the course of his research, George interviewed 54 of the players who took to the field on November 23, 1968. As Publishers Weekly observed, "By humanizing the players, the accounts of each team's amazing season and the four-chapter recap of their final, unbelievable game are elevated above entertaining sports reporting to thoughtful, emotional storytelling. This excellent history illustrates sports' powerful role in American society." The Wall Street Journal called it "the rare sports book that lives up to the claim of so many entrants in this genre: It is, in its way, the portrait of an era." George's work has appeared in The New York Times, Civilization and Mother Jones, among other publications. He taught at Smith College and, for many years, was a staff writer at Life magazine. He lives in western Massachusetts with his wife. *Arranged by Alex Garnett*

Wednesday, May 22, 2019



Professor Hamish Lutris will speak to us about Connecticut's role in the American Civil War. Connecticut provided a greater percentage of its citizens as Union manpower than any other state. Our state was also the arsenal of the Union with factories producing uniforms, guns and equipment for the military in unheard profusion and making the Union armies the best-equipped in history up to that time. This presentation paints a portrait of Connecticut in the Civil War, a contradictory picture of a state on the cusp of change though struggling to retain a way of life rapidly fading into a bucolic past. Hamish is an associate professor of history and political science at Capital Community College in Hartford. He has worked in some of America's premier natural and historical sites, leading hiking and historical programs. He has lectured extensively throughout the United States, Europe and Canada on wide-ranging historical topics such as Native American history, scientific history, social and cultural history, and the American West. *Arranged by Sunil Saksena*

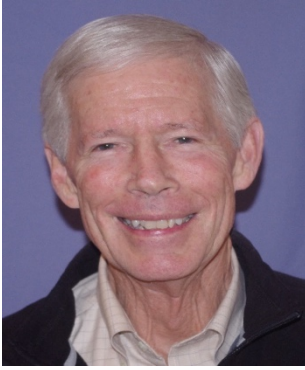
Wednesday, May 29, 2019

Joe Holmes and our own Songsters will wrap up our weekly presentations, entertaining us with a variety of songs from the repertoire they use for entertaining many groups throughout Fairfield County.

New Members



Richard Williamson was born in 1945. He graduated from Brown University with a B.A. in economics and American history. He graduated from Yale University with an M.A. in economics and graduated from the University of Chicago with an M.B.A. in finance and international business. Richard's career includes being chief financial officer, board member and adjunct professor teaching finance. Richard and his wife Laurie live in Darien. He is a member of the AICPA, the Andrew Shaw Memorial Trust (Darien Boy Scouts) and the Brown University Club of Fairfield County. In his leisure time, Richard enjoys reading, travel and swimming, and his special interest is working with the Boy Scouts to get donations for a new Darien home. *Sponsored by Dick Poli*



John Lawton was born in Port Chester, N.Y., in 1949 and grew up in Rye, N.Y. He graduated from Rye High School. He graduated from Curry College with a B.S. in business administration and was captain of the men's tennis team. John's business career began in 1974 with Compensation Programs in New York. He then joined St. Joe Minerals, Associated Metals and Minerals, Metal Traders, AMC Corporation, Astumet Inc. and NG&G Facility Services International. In 2002, he became sales manager at Metro Service Solutions on Long Island and then vice president of sales with Wolkoasis in Atlanta. From 2015 to the present, he has served as vice president of Business Development with Legacy FMS in Bellport, N.Y. John and

his wife Cathy live in Rowayton and have three children and eight grandchildren. He is a member of Westchester Country Club and past member of the Manursing Island Club. In his time off, John enjoys golf and boating. *Sponsored by Jim McGuire*



Mark Nunan was born in Cork, Ireland, in 1953. At an early age, he moved to Homewood and then Hoover, Ala. He graduated from Indian Springs High School in 1971, where he was editor of the school newspaper and literary magazine, member of the Student Judiciary group and member of the soccer team. Mark graduated from the University of Alabama in 1976. He continued his education at Stanford University, where he was awarded a master's in 1979 and a Ph.D. in 1983. During that same period, he was a George Lurcy Fellow at L'ENS normale supérieure and at the University of Paris-Sorbonne in Paris as part of his Ph.D. program. He was a member of Pi Kappa Phi academic honor society and participated in medical research in one of the largest blood pressure and cardiovascular disease research studies in the

United States. Mark started his career with COS, Inc in 1982 in Palo Alto, Calif., and then transferred to Paris and New York City in 1980, where he retired as a senior vice president in 2018. COS is a private firm that provides business and economic development services, assisting companies and governments in researching, developing and implementing new business expansion opportunities, mainly in North America and Europe. Mark and his partner Isabelle live in Darien and have one son and a daughter-in-law and two grandsons living in Europe. He belongs to the Stanford Alumni Association, A-Ulm: Association des Anciens Elèves de l'École normale supérieure and Phi Kappa Phi. His leisure activities include reading, investing, walking, hiking, travel, music and spectator sports; specifically, soccer and college football. *Sponsored by Tom Haack*



Frank Gallagher was born in the Bronx in 1957. He grew up in Larchmont, N.Y., and graduated from Mamaroneck High School 1975. He graduated from Florida International University in 1980 with a B.S. in hospitality management. Frank started his career with Weston International Hotels in Los Angeles in 1981. In 1982, he changed careers and joined George Gibbons & Co. in New York, involved in bond sales. He continued in the finance field in New York, Greenwich, and Larchmont doing equity research. In 1995, he joined Catalyst Investment Management doing hedge fund portfolio management in New York. In 2011, he went to work with Visium Asset Management also doing hedge fund portfolio management in New York City until he retired in 2015. Frank and his wife Catherine live in Darien and have two sons and a daughter, all living nearby. He belongs to Wee Burn Country Club and the Darien Boat Club. His leisure hobbies include tennis, golf, paddle tennis, bowling, fishing CUP paddle boarding, walking, hiking and American history. *Sponsored by Bert von Stuelpnagel*



John Fider was born in 1945 in Newark, N.J., and grew up in Union, N.J. He graduated from Union High School in 1963 and enrolled in Parsons College in Iowa. After one year, he left college to pursue a career in radio. John started his broadcast career at WHBI-FM in Newark and moved on to WBIC on Long Island. Soon thereafter, he took a position at WJLK in Asbury Park hosting the morning show, “The Alarm Clock Club.” In June 1965, he accepted a temporary position with ABC, and it became permanent in September and lasted until 2002. John’s career covered the gamut of sound mixer, transmission engineer and technical director, working some of the network’s most exciting programs. The scope included the Winter Olympics, the New York City Marathon, the Super Bowl, the Kentucky Derby and many others. On the news side, he covered NASA launches and Princess Diana’s wedding and funeral. In 1989, John became operations producer with the News Division covering “Primetime Live,” “20/20,” “World News Tonight” and special events. Promoted to director of broadcast operations, John handled shooting, editing and most studio, remote and bureau operations. He became vice president of production operations in 1996 and remained in that position until retiring in 2002. Since then, he directed “Columbia News Tonight” until 2017. He currently teaches part time at the New York Film Academy and freelances for Bravo Network. John has received six Emmy Awards and a DuPont Journalism Award. He and his wife Marilyn live in Rowayton. In his leisure time, he enjoys classical music, travel, sailing and tennis. *Sponsored by Dave McCollum*

Events & Activities

Book Club

Harris Hester reports that the Book Club will continue to meet through the summer on the second Wednesday of the month in the Mather Center Library. The May meeting will be at 12:30 p.m. **Subject to confirmation (check the DMA website) the June, July, and August meetings will be at the earlier time of 9:15 a.m.** (also at the Mather Center Library). The Book Club's next five selections are as follows. **May 8:** *Say Nothing: A True Story of Murder and Memory in Northern Ireland* by Patrick Radden Keefe. **June 12:** *Frankenstein* by Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley. **July 10:** *Friends Divided: John Adams and Thomas Jefferson* by Gordon S. Wood. **August 14:** *Madam Fourcade's War* by Lynn Olson. **Sept. 11:** *Breaking and Entering* by Jeremy Smith. You do not have to read the book to attend the meeting. You can find more information about the books at the DMA website. All books are available at the Darien Library.

Hiking in Babcock Preserve, Greenwich



For its first hike of the season, **Sunil Saksena** led the hiking group over the trails at the Babcock Preserve on March 28, 2019. The largest park in Greenwich, the Babcock Preserve has several miles of trails over a relatively easy terrain. The group hiked about 3 ½ miles in about 2 hours. The hike was followed by a most enjoyable lunch at the Madonia Restaurant in Stamford.



John Barston, Bill Bellis: Snapshot of Two Leaders

The Darien Men's Association may have dropped "Senior" from its name, but our group is still guided by two very active senior members, **John Barston**, 97 years old, and **Bill Bellis**, 89. For many years they have organized the DMA's annual March Madness NCAA Basketball pool. They have also led the Happy Wanderers, dedicated to exploring New York City's neighborhoods, backed by the active and continuing participation of **Taylor Strubinger**, 94. Over time, John and Bill developed an encyclopedic knowledge of

New York's past and present. Members appreciate that every Wandering has included a stop at a bar at least 100 years old. Someone has had to do the rigorous research in advance, and over the years Bill has volunteered for this demanding job. John and Bill are passing the Happy Wanderers responsibility over to **David Mace** and **Joe Spain** although they will continue to make suggestions based on their encyclopedic knowledge of New York's past and present. With new attractions such as the Hudson Yards development and the High Line, Wanderers never stop learning as they contemplate the City's emerging future. "We have not been tour guides, but Wanderers," said John. "Those who wander are never lost."

Photo by Charles Salmans

Chelsea Art Galleries Tour



A group of 17 DMA members and spouses visited art galleries in the Chelsea area on April 25, 2019. The trip was organized by Jan Selkowitz who had arranged for his sister Judith Selkowitz, an art historian and former Fulbright scholar, to lead the group. She selected the five galleries the group visited and arranged for their Directors to give a brief overview of the art on display. What made the trip most interesting was that each gallery exhibited a completely different style of art. After the tour the group enjoyed lunch at the nearby Chop Shop Restaurant. It was a beautiful day and a good time was had by all.

Photo by Greg Glasham

Happy Wanderers at Williamsburg, Brooklyn



On April 16, 2019 **Joe Spain** and **David Mace** led the Wanderers through the Williamsburg neighborhood in Brooklyn. Highlights of the trip included a pleasant walk over the Williamsburg Bridge (recommended for anyone), wandering through the Hasidic area of Williamsburg, a deliciously decadent lunch at Giando's Restaurant on the East River with a fabulous view of Manhattan, and the ferry ride to Wall Street. The absolutely gorgeous weather made the outing most enjoyable.

Current Affairs

CRISPR, a technique to edit genes is the subject of discussion on May 16. It has been compared to a word processor to edit the genome of any living organism. This capability has the power for breakthrough developments such as biofuels, disease resistant and more nutritious crops, and actually "repairing" a human gene that causes a deadly disease such as sickle cell anemia. But, like nuclear energy, CRISPR can be used for good or bad. Should we "fix" or even "improve" nature? What regulations are called for? Can the genie be put back in the bottle? **Jack Fitzgibbons** will lead the discussion as we struggle with this promising but challenging technology.

Bowling



Tom Lom and **Gehr Brown** report continued good turnout for bowling. All bowling skills are welcome (and varying skills are generally on display from week to week!). The Bowling Group meets on Tuesdays through May from 9:00 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Nutmeg Bowl at 802 Villa Avenue in Fairfield. After a summer hiatus beginning in June, bowling will resume on September 2.

Bridge



Tony Kwedar, chairman of the Bridge Group, notes the bridge group continues to meet through the summer months and cards will be shuffled and dealt with as usual. They get together Tuesdays at 1 p.m., at St. Luke's Church, 1864 Post Road, in the library. Photo, left to right, **Mike Garriottt**, **TonyKwedar**, **Alex Garnett**, **Fred Smith** and **Tom Gildersleeve**.

Money Matters

Doug Campbell reports that the newly-formed Money Matters group will meet on the third Wednesday of each month at 8:45 a.m. before the regular DMA meeting to discuss topics related to money. The next meeting, featuring a discussion on Trusts and Estates led by **Tom Igoe** and **Gary Banks**, will be held on May 1 (pushed from late April). On May 15, **Tom Haack** will lead a discussion on investing in farmland. June 19 topic TBD. No meeting in July and August.

Mark Your Calendar – Details on DMA Website

May 16 – Soundwater Cruise from Stamford, 5 pm to 7 pm

May 23 – American Airpower Museum, Republic Airport Long Island

June 13 – DMA Annual Picnic, Weed Beach, Darien, 5 p.m. to 8:30 pm. Rain date June 14.

Darien Men's Association Newsletter

Publisher, *Ray Meurer*. **Speaker write-ups & new member bios**, *Taylor Strubinger*.

New member photos, *Michael Poler*. **Caricature**, *Tom Glover*. **Mailing list**, *Frank Kemp*.

Photo credits this issue, *Charles Salmans, Michael Poler, Greg Glasham*

Activity Representatives

Book Club, Harris Hester, 655.2309
2nd Wednesday, 12:30 p.m., Mather Center Library

Bowling, Tom Lom, 655.0686
Tuesdays, 9:30 a.m., Nutmeg Lanes, Fairfield

Bridge, Tony Kwedar, 656.0444
Tuesdays, 1 p.m., St. Luke's Church, 1864 Post Road, Noroton

Current Affairs, Charlie Goodyear, 655.6935
3rd Tuesday, 8:15 a.m., DCA Lillian Gade Room

Golf, Denny Devre, 353.1758
As announced at meetings and eblasts

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

Hiking, Sunil Saksena, 561.8601
As announced at meetings and eblasts

Investment Discussion Group, Jim Phillips, 722 2787
1st Monday, 9 a.m., 30 Old Kings Highway South, 1st Floor

Money Matters, Doug Campbell, 975.0320
3rd Wednesday of each month at 9 a.m. prior to the weekly DMA meeting in Lillian Gade Room

Pickleball, Jan Selkowitz, 655.0441
Tuesdays, Thursdays at 9:30 a.m. for beginners and 11 a.m. for experienced

Songsters, Joe Holmes, 838.8744
As announced, Wednesdays, 8:45 a.m., DCA

Woodworking, Tom Williams, 655.7398
Mondays, Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m., Mather Center