



Vol. 42, No. 3

Darien Men's Association

January-February 2019

## **Hockey Night in Bridgeport**



**Tom Lom** and **Gehr Brown** announce that DMA will hold its second annual visit to Webster Bank Arena to see the Bridgeport Sound Tigers take on the Lehigh Valley Phantoms at 7 p.m. on Friday, February 1. These are two of the better teams in the AHL, and the seats will be close to the ice. Prior to the game, the group will meet at 5 p.m. to dine at Ralph-n-Rich's Restaurant just steps away from the arena. We'll be able to park our cars in the restaurant lot for the evening and simply return there to drive home. Signup is available now to the first 20 people who pay. The cost is \$60 per person, which includes game ticket, dinner and first glass of wine or soft drink.

# **President's Message**

We've had an amazing fall, with wonderful speakers bringing an array of talent, extensive experience and simple storytelling abilities to educate and entertain us for an hour a week. We've read a number of excellent books made even better with the depth of discussion brought to bear. We've met to discuss current affairs on everybody's collective

on everybody's collective consciousness, including immigration policy, global warming solutions, health care alternatives and the like. **Jim Phillips** formed a group to discuss investment ideas, almost filling the room at his first session. Our bowlers continue to knock 'em down. The bridge players double each other into oblivion. We've had a schooner voyage on the Sound and a trip to Goodspeed to enjoy a Broadwayquality performance. As you enjoy the holiday wreaths on town lamp posts, keep in mind that it is a devoted group of DMA members that ensures all the

bulbs shine brightly. We're continuing to wander in New York City's fabled neighborhoods, never far from a bar whose primary criterion is that it has been open for more than a century. Ranging around Fairfield and Westchester counties, we take hikes over beautiful terrain. In cooperation with the Darien Senior Center, we use its equipment to repair, lamps, furniture and a myriad of other items, including antiques, a labor of love for our craftsmen. A common thread amongst all that's going on at the DMA, of course, is the strong membership. Perhaps it's just the rain and the colder weather, but we've attracted so many new members that we have a challenge providing enough parking and seating/standing room during the break – which should subside as our snowbirds flee south over the winter. Our recent Christmas Party at the Country Club of Darien offered hors d'oeuvres, a full dinner, table seating and, best of all, musical entertainment provided by Darien High's Tudor Singers. Allow all of us – activity chairmen, committee members, directors and officers – to wish every member a healthy and prosperous 2019.

John Wolcott, president

# **Speakers**

Wednesday, January 2, 2019

Mark Albertson will speak to us on the rise of Hitler. Mark is an exciting speaker who has spoken



to us before on historical topics. He is the historical research editor at *Army Aviation* magazine and is a long-time member of the United States Naval Institute. In addition, Mark teaches history at Norwalk Community College. His courses include World War I and Iraq; Creation of Colonialism; A History of Vietnam; A History of World War I; the Turning Points of World War II; The Great Patriotic War, the Titanic Clash between Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union; and American Empire, Grand Republic to Corporate State. In May 2005, Mark was presented with a General Assembly Citation by both houses of the state legislature in Hartford for his effort in commemorating the centennial of the battleship Connecticut.

Arranged by Tom Lom

#### Wednesday, January 9, 2019

Bill Rycek will talk about the history of semipro and pro football in Connecticut. This narrative



of minor league football teams in Connecticut in the 1960s and 1970s is based on extensive newspaper and periodical research and interviews with nearly 70 former players, broadcasters and journalists. Only a few players – like Marv Hubbard, Lou Piccone and Bob Tucker – made it to the NFL, but many more played for as little as \$25 per game in their quest to make it big or just have fun. Wealthy men like Pete Savin and Frank D'Addario owned teams in Hartford and Bridgeport. In the days before cable television saturated the media with live sports, small town fans turned out to support their local heroes, often men who worked on construction crews during the week and stopped by the diner Sunday morning to talk football. Now in their 60s, 70s and 80s, these men share their stories of a simpler era: the good times, like the Hartford Knights' 1968 ACFL championship season and the long bus rides and missed paydays that were as much a part of minor league ball as first downs and interceptions. Bill is a finance professional from Wallingford who has written eight books on sports history, including a trilogy on 19th century baseball, three books on baseball during the 1960s and two books on professional football in the 1960s. His work has earned a number of awards, and he has edited and contributed to other books and publications on the history of sports.

Arranged by Gehr Brown

#### Wednesday, January 16, 2019

Andrew Wilk, executive producer and director of the PBS series "Live from Lincoln Center," will

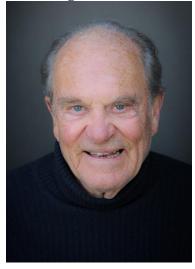


talk about his long career in broadcast entertainment, with particular focus on the last seven years with the Lincoln Center series. Andrew is an experienced television and media executive with a history of creating innovative, award-winning programming. His work has earned five personal Emmy Awards with 15 nominations. He also is an acclaimed playwright, director and accomplished symphony conductor. He was chief creative officer at Sony Music Entertainment, overseeing visual content for Sony's label groups and leading Sony's digital music expansion. He was instrumental in the launching of the worldwide National Geographic channel and developed its initial programming. In

2011, Andrew became the second executive producer and director in the 44-year history of "Live from Lincoln Center" and "Lincoln Center at the Movies." Andrew holds a bachelor's degree from Tisch School of the Arts at New York University. He and his family live in Westport. **Arranged by Bud Bain** 

#### Wednesday, January 23, 2019

Flemming Heilmann discusses Odyssey Uncharted, a memoir of his World War II childhood and



education on four continents. His is a coming-of-age story against a backdrop of historical events and is shaped by immersion in the cultures of Southeast Asia, Australia, Denmark and England. Flemming was born in 1936 of Danish parents in what then was known as Malaya. Spending his early childhood there, he was forced by the Japanese invasion to evacuate to Australia in 1941. The family spent the war as refugees. When the war ended in Europe, and prior to Japanese capitulation, the family traveled home to Denmark on a troopship, evading kamikaze attacks in the Pacific. Flemming's education spanned Australia, Denmark and the United Kingdom, where he spent four years at Gresham, a boarding school where he instigated a successful mutiny against a tyrannical headmaster, resulting in his being ousted. Vacations were spent in Malaya surviving terrorist attacks, meeting the King of Swaziland and confronting apartheid in South Africa. He graduated from Cambridge with a law degree. The memoir covers his life through his first job at age 22. After a 40-year career as an international business executive, Flemming now is retired and lives with his wife Judy in Rowayton. They have four sons, a daughter and nine grandsons. **Arranged by Sunil Saksena** 

#### Wednesday, January 30, 2019

Steve Roach will speak on China: Trade War to Cold War. He is a senior fellow at Yale's Jackson



Institute of Global Affairs and a senior lecturer at Yale's School of Management. He formerly was chairman of Morgan Stanley Asia and the firm's chief economist for the bulk of his 30-year career at Morgan Stanley, heading up a highly regarded team of economists around the world and currently focusing on the impact of Asia on the broader global economy. He has introduced courses on "The Next China" and "The Lessons of Japan." His writing and research address globalization, trade policy, the postcrisis policy architecture and the capital markets implications of global imbalances. Steve has long been one of Wall Street's most influential economists, and his opinions on the global economy have been known to shape the policy debate from Beijing to Washington, D.C. His new book, Unbalanced: The Codependency of America and China, examines the risks and opportunities of what is likely to be the world's most important economic relationship of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Steve served on the research staff of the Federal Reserve Board and also was a

research fellow at the Brookings Institution. He holds a Ph.D. in economics from New York University. He is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, the Investment Committee of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the China Advisory Board of the Environmental Defense Fund and the Economics Advisory Board of the University of Wisconsin. **Arranged by Sunil Saksena** 

## Wednesday, February 6, 2019

Philip Vitiello will speak on the White Star Line's Olympic Class Ships, Olympic, Titanic and



Britannic. Almost everyone knows the story of the Titanic, which, while on her maiden voyage to New York in 1912, hit an iceberg and sank, causing the loss of 1,500 passengers and crew. However, few people realize that the Titanic actually was the second of three super ships built in the Olympic Class for the White Star Line to compete for the Atlantic-crossing passenger trade. At the time, these three ships were claimed to be the largest ever built. This PowerPoint presentation tells the incredible and tragic story of these three historical ships and what eventually happened to them. Included in the story is the amazing life of Violet Constance Jessop, who, ironically, sailed on all three of these ships as a stewardess and then as a nurse during World War I. Philip is the director of operations of Northeast Food Marketing in Stamford. He has been a Civil War historian and re-enactor for more than 40 years and the vice president of the Civil War Round Table of South Central Connecticut. He is a member of the Titanic Historical Society, as well as The International Group for Historic Aircraft Recovery. He previously delivered two other DMA presentations on Joshua Chamberlain, the Civil War general and on the Hunley, a Civil War submarine.

#### Arranged by Andre Guilbert

#### Wednesday, February 13, 2019

Howland Blackiston will speak on the vanishing honey bee. The sweet reward of fresh honey is



not, by any means, the only reason folks are attracted to beekeeping. The value of bees as pollinators is immense: One-third of all the food we eat would suffer dire consequences if the honey bee vanished. Howland's talk will introduce us to the multitude of benefits these creatures bring to our everyday lives, the pleasures of beekeeping and the amazing social structure of a colony of bees. Discover what goes on inside a bee colony and understand why bees are vanishing and what you can do to reverse the situation. Howland is the author of *Beekeeping for Dummies*. This is the number one bestselling book on the subject and is one of the top titles in the *For Dummies* series of reference books. He has been a back yard beekeeper for 35 years and has written hundreds of articles and appeared in dozens of TV

programs and radio shows, including the Discovery Channel, CNBC, Sirius XM Radio, Cablevision and NPR. His publications have been translated into 16 languages. He is past president of the Connecticut Back Yard Beekeepers Association.

#### Arranged by Sunil Saksena

#### Wednesday, February 20, 2019

Kevin Gutzman will speak about Thomas Jefferson. Although remembered as the third president



of the United States and chief author of the Declaration of Independence, Jefferson also was something more: the most successful constructive statesman in American history. He had radical plans to republicanize America and, working with remarkable success, to implement them. Born into a monarchical society, Jefferson turned his great intellect and energy to making it highly egalitarian. Much of what we take for granted about America now was originally Jefferson's idea. It is a fascinating story. Kevin is The New York Times bestselling author of five books. He is professor and former chairman of the Department of History at Western Connecticut State University and a faculty member at LibertyClassroom.com. His articles have appeared in The Journal of Southern History, Journal of the Early Republic, The Virginia Magazine of History and Biography, The Review of Politics and Journal of the Historical

Society. He holds a bachelor's degree, a master of public affairs degree and a law degree from the

University of Texas, Austin, as well as an M.A. and a Ph.D. in American history from the University of Virginia.

Arranged by Sunil Saksena

#### Wednesday, February 27, 2019

Charles Grady will speak on the opioid crisis in Connecticut. In his talk entitled "The FBI in



Connecticut: an Overview and the Opioid Crisis in Our State," he will focus on various programs and initiatives of the FBI and speak to the issues facing Connecticut relative to its opioid crisis. Charles, born in New Haven, became a police officer in 1982. He was the first African-American motorcycle officer in the Hamden Police Department and its first African-American detective. In 2002, he retired after a highly decorated career as a detective and federal task officer assigned to the Connecticut State Police Narcotics Unit, DEA and FBI joint task force, as well as being deputized by the U.S. Marshals Service. The primary focus of his career has been in narcotics violations and narcotics-related homicides. Charles also is a professional musician and an accomplished stage, television and film actor, appearing in shows such as "Guiding Light," "All My Children" and "Law and Order." After his retirement, he spent seven years as an internal audit investigator for a Fortune 500 company. In 2009, he returned to

government service as the first ever internal investigator for the Connecticut U.S. Attorney's office and, in 2012, helped launch the governor's anti-gun violence program called "Project Longevity" in New Haven and subsequently in Bridgeport. In 2015, he was chosen as the first FBI Community Outreach specialist for Connecticut, in which capacity he educates community members, law enforcement and judicial members on ways to build a safer and more tolerant community. **Arranged by Sunil Saksena** 

# **New Members**

Seth Morton was born in Albany, N.Y., in 1942. He grew up in Loudonville, N.Y., and graduated



from Millbrook School in 1961. He graduated from Lehigh University with a B.A. in international relations (Latin American affairs) in 1965. At Lehigh, he was ROTC Distinguished Military Graduate, member of the Pershing Rifles and center on the Lehigh ice hockey team. Upon graduating from Lehigh, Seth spent two years as a first lieutenant in the U.S. Army Ordnance Corps and then joined the family fuel oil distributorship in Albany. In 1970, he joined Zurn Industries in Erie, Pa., in the Water and Waste Treatment Division. After completing an M.B.A. from Gannon University in 1973, he began his financial career at Manufacturers Hanover's Latin American Division. From 1974 to 1982, he worked in corporate finance at Viacom International. He joined Dun & Bradstreet in 1991 and was introduced to sophisticated integration and data management systems for banks and insurance companies. In 1995, he joined GE Information Services, beginning a career in systems sales to major corporations. In 2011, he became a licensed agent at New York Life and continues as an independent agent for life insurance, disability insurance, long-term care and annuities in Connecticut and six other states. Seth and his wife Linda have three daughters and a grandson. He is a member of the First Congregational Church, the RTM, the Tokeneke Club and the Mianus chapter of Trout Unlimited. His hobbies include fly fishing in fresh water and salt water. *Sponsored by Harry McLachlin* 

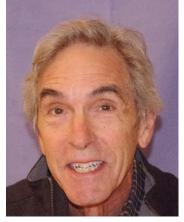
Ian Duncan was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, in 1931. He grew up in Edinburgh and graduated



from Royal High School. He attended Edinburgh University (required for chartered accountancy (CA)). He was awarded the Gold Medal in Mercantile Law at Edinburgh University and qualified as a CA in 1954. At the university, he was the school champion in tennis for three years and singles champion at Abercorn Tennis Club from 1949 to 1950. Ian started work in 1949, working for chartered accountants in Edinburgh, advanced to senior accountant in 1957 and then spent from 1958 to 1974 as works accountant for ICI on various projects in England, Asia, Africa and Mexico. From 1981 to 1988, Ian was president of GOHMI, a New York management company involved in company takeovers. He retired temporarily in 1988 until he was persuaded to return to the United Kingdom and join the board of Guinness (later changed to Diageo), where he was both managing

director and chief financial officer until he reached the mandatory retirement age of 62 in 1999. Ian and his wife Marjorie Anne live in Darien and recently celebrated their diamond wedding anniversary. They have three sons and eight grandchildren all living in the area. Ian belongs to the Country Club of Darien. In the United Kingdom, he continues to belong to the Ashridge Golf Club, the Berkhamsted Tennis and Squash Club and the Hertfordshire County Lawn Tennis Association. His hobbies and interests include tennis, paddle tennis, golf, and family and friends. *Sponsored by Jim Kelly* 

Walter (Chip) Schroeder was born in Bennington, Vt., in 1948. He grew up in Williamstown,

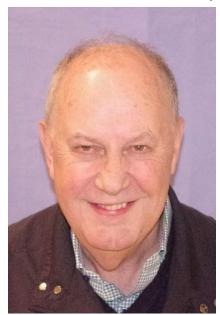


Mass., and graduated from Greylock Regional High School in 1966. He graduated from Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) with an undergraduate degree in 1970 and a master's degree in 1972. At MIT, he was president of his fraternity and captain of the ski team. Chip has a 40+ year background in energy and energy-related finance. He was principal energy analyst for the Subcommittee on Energy and Power for the U.S. House of Representatives and ran the Office of Regulatory Analysis at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. In the early '80s, he was president of a major interstate pipeline group in Chicago, later joining Goldman Sachs' Corporate Finance unit, focusing on regulated energy companies. In 1996, he founded Proton Energy Systems, a hydrogen and fuel cell company

and led the company to an initial public offering. He was honored in 2005, being named Entrepreneur of the Year by Connecticut's venture investing group, Connecticut Innovations, Inc. Chip and his wife Susan live in Darien and have two sons and a granddaughter. He is a member

of Wee Burn Country Club and Paradise Valley Country Club. His hobbies include golf, skiing, music and bridge. *Sponsored by Spike Reed* 

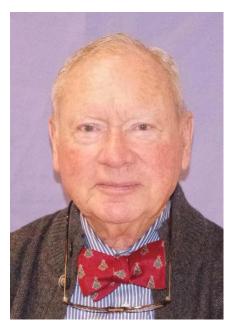
Jim Gifford was born in Albany, N.Y., in 1949. He grew up in Delmar, N.Y., and graduated from



Bethlehem Central High School in 1967. He graduated from Boston College in 1971 with a B.A. degree and was a member of the Honors Program and played intramural sports, including baseball and football. Jim started work in 1972 with the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare in San Francisco. In 1978, he returned to school at the University of Oregon, where, in 1980, he earned an M.Sc. degree in computer science and was a graduate teaching assistant. Back in the workforce, Jim was software engineer at Wang Labs in Boston for 10 years; vice president of engineering at Media Vision in Fremont, Calif., for four years; vice president and general manager at Diamond Multimedia Systems in Santa Clara, Calif., and senior vice president and chief operating officer for five years at Netscreen Technologies in Santa Clara. Jim and his wife Shirley live in Rowayton and have two children and five grandchildren. He belongs to the Association for Computing Machinery and the Institute of Electronics and Electrical Engineers. He is an

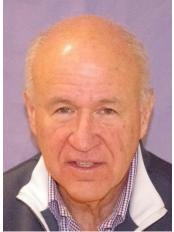
avid reader and student of classical antiquity, medieval philosophy and history. Jim has traveled worldwide since his retirement and also is an amateur wine collector. He enjoys skiing. *Sponsored by Bob Johnson* 

Richard (Dick) Woods was born in 1937 and describes himself as a native San Franciscan. The



family moved to Greenwich after WWII, and he went to school at Andover and Princeton. After graduation, Dick joined the Marines, where he was captain of the All-Marine Rifle and Pistol team, setting national records. Looking for a more rewarding work environment, he joined Merrill Lynch as an account executive in Hartford. He transferred to San Francisco after a dozen years as regional sales manager and office manager. In 1978, he relocated back east to run a division of the firm and later became a member of the New York Stock Exchange, responsible for Merrill's order flow. He retired in 1992. Dick and his wife Robin live in Rowayton and have three children. He belongs to Wee Burn Country Club, New York Yacht Club, Norwalk Yacht Club, The Corinthians and the Bohemian Club. His favorite recreation is sailing the east coast, and he has captained boats from Maine to the Bahamas. When not on the water, he and Robin travel around the world to sample ice cream. Currently, the count is 137 countries. Sponsored by John Hess

Dave Weiss was born in Brooklyn, N.Y., in 1947 and grew up in Floral Park. He graduated from



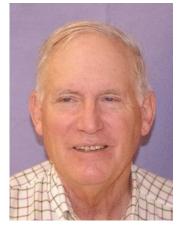
Martin Van Buren High School in Jamaica, N.Y. He graduated from SUNY New Paltz with a B.S. in education in 1968 and was active in the Patterson Club, skiing, tennis, golf and platform tennis. After graduation, Dave worked for five years for the New York City Board of Education. He then became involved in sales with Burlington Industries and West Point Pepperell until 1985. He worked for Drexel Burnham Lambert in New York City and Los Angeles until 1990. In New York and Connecticut, Dave worked for Merrill Lynch, various banks and Rafferty Capital Markets. From 2010 to 2018, when he retired, he was with BMO Capital Markets in New York City as head of Leveraged Finance Sales, Trading and Research. John and his wife Stacy live in Fairfield and have three children and two grandchildren. Dave continues his interest in skiing, tennis and golf in spare moments

of leisure. Sponsored by Scott Hutchason

Frank Zaino was born on Long Island, N.Y., in 1944. He grew up in Westbury and graduated from Chaminade High School in 1962, where he was active in intramural sports, cheerleading, prom committee and the yearbook. He graduated from Fairfield University with a B.A. in history. Frank then went on to Georgetown University School of Dentistry and graduated in 1970. After that, he spent two years as a captain in the U.S. Army Dental Corp. In 1972, he set up his own dental practice in Fairfield, where he worked for 44 years before retiring and turning the practice over to his son-in-law. Frank and his wife Dale-Beth live in Fairfield. They have one daughter, three sons and 11 grandchildren. He is active in the Fairfield University Alumni Association and in coaching youth basketball and lacrosse. He belongs to the Bridgeport Dental Association, Connecticut State Dental Association, American

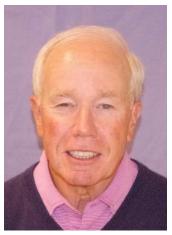
Dental Association and International College of Dentistry. He enjoys golf at the Brooklawn Country Club and also history, travel and yard work. *Sponsored by Bob Hughes* 

Tom Hood was born in Omaha, Neb., in 1947, grew up in Omaha and graduated from Westside



High School in 1965. He graduated from Yale University with a B.A. in 1969, where he was active in his fraternity, the Yale Political Union and the Branford College frisbee team. His entire career has been in the legal profession. He worked as a tax attorney in New York City for three years until 1977. He moved back to Omaha and worked as a tax partner in law firms there until 1990. From 1990 to 1993, he was counselor to the Internal Revenue Service commissioner. From 1993 to 2015, he was with Mayer Brown as a tax partner. Tom and his wife Maren live in Darien and have three sons and three grandchildren. He belongs to the Woodway Country Club, Pequot Yacht Club, New York Yacht Club, Connecticut State Senior Gold Association, Wianno Club (Osterville, Mass.,) and various South Carolina clubs. His leisure time is spent sailing, golfing, reading, working crossword puzzles and enjoying Broadway musicals. *Sponsored by Joe Holmes* 

John McKittrick was born in Indianapolis, Ind., in 1947 and grew up in Western Springs, Ill. He



graduated from Lyon's Township High School and from Butler University with a B.S. degree in 1969. At Butler, John was active in his fraternity, the tennis team and president of the campus YMCA. He started his working career doing advertising sales with the *Chicago Tribune*. In 1978, he joined *Sunset* magazine and became manager of the New York City office in 1983. In 1994, he joined *Reader's Digest*, where he rose to eastern advertising manager. He joined Health Monitor Network in 2007, becoming advertising director to the company, which facilitates effective dialogue between patients and healthcare professionals. John and his wife Susan live in Darien and have two children and two grandchildren. John belongs to Wee Burn Country Club, where he is an avid golfer. He also enjoys bridge and skiing. *Sponsored by Bob McGroarty* 

Mike Glynn was born in Bridgeport in 1941 and grew up in Fairfield. He attended Fairfield Prep



and graduated from Fairfield University in 1963 with a B.S. in chemistry and an M.A. in education in 1966. He earned an M.S. in chemistry from Holy Cross and a law degree from American University in 1974. Mike's work history began with the Peace Corps, teaching in Liberia from 1963 to 1965. He worked in the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office as a patent examiner in Washington, D.C., from 1967 to 1974. He then joined Ciba-Geigy Corporation as a patent attorney. He rose to become corporate vice president and intellectual property counsel for Ciba-Geigy and its successor, Novartis Corporation, until retiring in 2000. Mike lives in Darien. He lost his wife Sandra in 2016. He has two sons and five granddaughters. He is a member of the Darien Boat Club. He enjoys cosmology, fishing and poker. *Sponsored by Tom Williams* 

**Vinny Arguimbau** was born in Darien in 1950 and grew up here and in Seville, Spain. He graduated from Loomis School in 1969 and the University of North Carolina in 1974 with a degree in economics and political science. Upon graduation, he joined the family business, Arguimbau & Co., which is a specialty food importer. He retired in 2013. Vinny and his wife Hilarie live in Darien. He is a member of Wee Burn Country Club. He is interested in local water sports. Due to his time on the water, he has become interested in the health of Darien's shoreline, which led him to join SoundWaters and Friends of Gorhams Pond. He also attends seminars at Cato Institute in economics, foreign policy and constitutional law. He is active in the quixotic effort by the Libertarian Party to replace the Republican Party in Connecticut. *Sponsored by Gary Banks* 

# **Christmas Party**

The 2018 Christmas Party, attended by 164 people, was held at the Country Club of Darien on December 19, 2018. Food service included one hour of hors d'oueveres followed by a sit-down buffet dinner. The menu was Caesar salad with a choice of chicken francaise, grilled salmon or cavatelli bolognese plus dessert. The Darien High School Tudor Singers provided the entertainment. *Photos by Chales Salmans* 



#### Christmas Party (continued)



## **Two Special Woodworking Projects**

**Tom Williams** reports on two special projects recently completed by the Woodworkers. One was an original creation of a free-floating fireplace mantel piece, shown in the two photos below. The mantel piece was a fairly complex project carried out by **Harry Bergen** for his son's home. It involved preparing a piece of reclaimed barn wood and drilling four precisely located holes to



eclaimed barn wood and drilling four precisely located holes to accept the floating mantel. Harry says, "I could not have done the project without the help of the Woodworkers. They are all skilled carpenters capable of creating items from scratch. Installation of the mantel piece over the fireplace was a snap thanks to the precise work of these people." The second project was an upgrade of the name badge holder done by **Al Metayer** and Tom,

making it easier for DMA members to find and store their name badges before and after our meetings. *Photos by Harry Bergen* 



## **New Member Coffee**

The DMA officers and directors hosted a new member coffee on October 31. "The goal is to give new members an opportunity to learn more about DMA events and activities so they can select areas of special interest and become actively involved," says **Bryan Hooper**, chairman, Membership & Hospitality. *Photos by Gregory Glashan* 



## **Songsters Celebrate**



**Tom Igoe** reports that a merry time was had by all during a party hosted by **Bunny Ericsson**, the accompanist for the Darien Senior Songsters, who started playing the piano for them 36 years ago. "During the party at Bunny's house in Darien, she played her magnificent organ, gave accordion lessons to **David Claiborne** and served a holiday feast that will live in our memories for a long time," says Tom. Bunny's late husband was a long-time member of the DMA. *Photo by Tom Igoe* 

## **Investment Club Holds First Meeting**



The Investment Club led by **Jim Phillips** held its first meeting on Monday, December 3, 2018. On January 7, 2019 the group will discuss Alibaba led by **Sunil Saksena** and General Electric led by **Jim Ozanne**. The February 4, 2019 discussion topic will be announced in January. The club meets the first Monday of the month at 9 a.m. at the offices of John Hess, 30 Kings Highway South, on the first floor. *Photo by Charles Salmans* 

## **Darien Historical Society Tour**



A group of DMA members organized by **Joe Spain** visited the Darien Historical Society (DHS) to view the works of Margaret Brassler Kane, a well-known American sculptor who summered in Darien. The outstanding exhibit showcases 23 of the artist's sculptures and reliefs that are beautifully displayed in the lofty post-and-beam exhibition space at the DHS. The highlights include five spectacular 6x6 feet limestone panels depicting the evolution of man and an exquisite bronze titled "Harlem Dancers," the original of which is on display at the Smithsonian. This exhibit runs through February 3, 2019, and is definitely worth a visit. *Photo by Sunil Saksena* 

#### Lower East Side Wandering



Shown here on the steps leading into the Tenement Museum is the group of Happy Wanderers who explored the Lower East Side on November 27 led by **Sunil Saksena**. The Wanderers also stopped for libations at the notorious dive called Milano's Bar and enjoyed a delicious lunch at Katz's Delicatessen. **John Barston** reports that the Happy Wanderers are celebrating their 18<sup>th</sup> year of wandering the streets of New York City and nearby environs. Congratulations go to John for leading the Happy Wanderers on many joyful journeys all those many years.

## **Christmas Wreath Lights**



**Jack Fitzgibbons** says more than 300 light bulbs were replaced on the 82 wreaths that decorate the downtown roads and public areas of the Town of Darien. It is a traditional task carried out each year by the DMA as part of our Community Service program. Eighteen people helped brighten up the wreaths.

## **Current Affairs**



Charlie Goodyear, who has taken over Current Affairs, reports that the January 17

discussion will be on "Social Media," led by **Jim Phillips**. The February 21 discussion will be on "BREXIT," the U.K. withdrawal from the European Union, led by **Bryan Hooper**. The group meets on the third Thursday of the month, 8 a.m., in the Lillian Gade Room, second floor, Darien Community Association. Information about the discussion topics that can be read prior to the meeting is posted on the DMA website. All are welcome to join in. The photo above was taken at the December 13 meeting. *Photo by Charles Salmans* 

## **Bell Ringers**



**Marc Thorne** reports that 30 DMA members, including three spouses, turned out to ring The Salvation Army bells in front of Palmer's Market on December 7, 8 and 9. Pictured here are **Tom Igoe, Patrick Steele** and **Gehr Brown**. "Thanks to everyone who joined in the holiday fun," says Marc. *Photo by Charles Salmans* 

## **Book Club**

Harris Hester reports that the book Bad Blood: Secrets and Lies in a Silicon Valley Startup by



John Carreyrou will be discussed on January 9. On February 13, the book *I Was Told to Come Alone* by Souad Mekhennet will be discussed. The author is a reporter who went behind the lines with an ISIS group. The Book Club meets the second Wednesday of the month year round at 12:30 p.m. in the Mather Center Library. 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.

#### **Goodspeed Opera House**



The bus arrived on time, lunch was great and the show, "The Drowsy Chaperone," was entertaining. But the trip home included a snowstorm that **Chris Snyder** called a "nightmare nor'easter." The snow began falling late in the afternoon, and the bus did not reach Darien until well after 8 p.m. "It was a very slow sleigh ride home," says Chris. The November storm turned out to be the worst of the season to date. A highlight of the trip was lunch that offered five selections, copious amounts of food deliciously prepared and reasonable prices. It would be worth going back just to have lunch according to one attendee. *Photo by Taylor Strubinger* 

#### **Greenwich Point Park Hike**



It was a cold, blustery day, but nine people turned out to stroll through Greenwich Point Park on November 29, led by **Sunil Saksena**. "It was the last hike until the weather turns warmer in the spring," says Sunil. Lunch at a nearby restaurant was a hit. *Photo by Jan Selkowitz* 

## February Trip to Hartford



**Chris Snyder** reports a trip to Hartford is being planned for February to tour the capital and meet with elected legislators to get their view of how Connecticut can extricate itself from our problems. Hopefully, lunch will be in the Capital Restaurant or cafeteria. The date will be announced in January to ensure that the legislature will be in session and time can be booked with our representatives. If time permits, a visit to the Mark Twain house will be arranged. Transportation will be carpool or bus depending on the number of signups.

#### **Mianus River Park Hike**



Fifteen people enjoyed the Mianus River Park on November 8 reports **Sunil Saksena**, who led the hike. The trail was rugged. At one point, **Jay Kolinsky** stumbled into the leaves and discovered a hidden rock that injured one of his knees. Fortunately, **Bert von Stuelpnagel** was on the hike. Bert has had first aid training and carries with him an ice pack and bandages and was able to patch up Jay's knee. Lunch was at a nearby restaurant. *Photo by Sunil Saksena* 

#### **Super Bowl Sunday**

Super Bowl Sunday is February 3, 2019, reports John Barston. "We will have the



grid up and running at our Wednesday meeting on January 16, 23 and 30," says John who will be assisted by **Bill Bellis**. There will be 100 boxes on the grid that will be sold for \$2 each on a first-come, first-served basis. Four cash prizes will be awarded based on the score at the end of the first quarter, second quarter, third quarter and end of game. Prizes are \$25, \$50, \$25 and \$100, respectively. Cash awards will be distributed at our February 6 meeting.

#### 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 in order of appearance**, *Charles Salmans*, *Harry Bergen*, *Gregory Glashan*, *Tom Igoe*, *Sunil Saksena*, *Taylor Strubinger*, *Jan Selkowitz*