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NEWSLETTER



SUPERBOWL WINNERS

Tom Reifenheiser, first quarter winner, and **Chick Scribner**, half-time and third quarter winner flanked by **Bill Bellis** and **John Barston** who are the pool managers. The end of game winner, **Bob Ready**, was unable to attend.

Next sporting event will be March Madness so start now to study the performance of all the basketball teams. On Sunday, March 15, the selection committee will publish the list of teams and their seeds that will make up the 64 teams playing for the NCAA 2015 championship. This pool is a zero sum pool. The first prize is \$100 with additional prizes of up to \$50 as long as the entry fees will stretch.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



As I approach the final three months of my term as president I have found it satisfying but I confess that I am looking forward to the end.

Thanks to an anonymous gift of \$3,000 from one of our members we now have a Canon HD Projector for use at our weekly meetings. This was a very generous gift and much appreciated.

We are in excellent financial shape and have over \$50,000 in our checking and investment accounts. I believe that our organization does not need this much cash on hand, but I will leave it to the future executive teams and the Board to determine

What we have to do with this challenge.

We had over 160 attendees at the Christmas Cocktail Party and I am now optimistic that the organization will be able to continue this as an annual event.

Jack Fitzgibbons, the Committee Chairman of Community Services, and I have been discussing ideas for expanding beyond the Memorial Day Parade and Repairing the Chamber of Commerce's Christmas Wreaths. Bob Riith has been working with the Town of Darien to fill a weekend schedule with DMA members as the bell ringers in front of Palmers. 90% of these contributions stay in Darien. If anyone else has some ideas to expand our involvement in Community Services please talk to Jack Fitzgibbons.

Bob Smith, President

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Five new members were added to the DMA during the past two months and their bios are listed below. Present membership is 283 and there are openings for residents of Darien and other towns. Tell your friends what good times we have and bring them to our meetings.

Meet our new members:

Howard Johnson was born 1942 in Oak Park, IL, and graduated from the Oak Park – River Forest high school. He received an A.B. degree from Brown University in 1964 and was a member of the sailing team and the Sigma Chi fraternity. He graduated Georgetown University Law School in 1968 with a J.D. degree where he served on the Moot Court, was a research assistant and received the American Jurisprudence Prize in Taxation.



In 1968, Howard began his career as a law clerk with the U.S. District court, Illinois. In 1970, he joined the firm of Martin, Craig, Chester & Sonnenschein, where he became a partner. From 1977 until retiring in 2002 as a senior international attorney, he was with the office of general counsel, Texaco, Inc., in White Plains, N.Y. He worked on alterna-

tive alternative energy projects in the United States and Germany as well as the acquisition and operational aspects of oil and gas properties in Asia, Russia and Africa.

Howard is a member of the bar in Illinois, New York, Texas and Connecticut. While working at Texaco he served as an adjunct professor at the Pace University School of Law and was a university fellow at Columbia University.

Howard and his wife live in Rowayton and have one child and two grandchildren. He is a member of the Brown Club, the Darien YMCA, the Rowayton Yacht Club, Trout Unlimited, the Crystal Lake & Watershed Association and the American Association of Individual Investors. He enjoys fly fishing, reading, sailing and spending time in northern Michigan during the summer.

Todd Meck was born in Omaha, NE. in 1950 and grew up in Lincoln, NE. and Windsor Locks, CT. where he graduated from high school and was class president, captain of the basketball team and was named to the Connecticut Boys State leadership program. He received a B.S. degree from Hobart College in 1972 and was a George F. Baker Scholar and a member of Kappa Sigma.

Todd joined Connecticut Mutual Insurance in Hartford, CT. in 1972 in product development and marketing and became a corporate officer. In 1978 he joined Towers Perrin as a managing principal. The company provides human resource and financial consulting. He retired from Towers Watson in 2010 and is a member of the Society of Actuaries and the American Academy of Actuaries.

He and his wife Susan live in Darien and have two children, three stepchildren and six grandchildren. He is a member of the Country Club of Darien and enjoys golf, skiing, tennis and travel.



Jack Neafsey was born in 1939 in Woodside, N.Y. He grew up in Greenwich, CT., graduating from high school there in 1957 where he played varsity football and basketball and served as president of the student council. In 1961 he graduated from Cornell with a BA in English and an MBA in 1963.

Jack joined Esso Research and Engineering Co., Linden, NJ in 1963 in finance and planning and later joined Sunray DX Oil Company, Tulsa, OK. When the company was bought by Sunoco, he stayed with Sunoco serving as executive vice president and director responsible for Canadian operations including its tar sands program. He then served as chief financial officer of Sun Coal Company responsible for real estate and leasing operations. Upon leaving Sun, he was chief executive officer of an investment bank and then went on to do a number of private equity deals. He is currently chairman of Alliance Resources, the second largest eastern underground coal company.



Jack and his wife Rilla live in Darien and have three children and six grandchildren. He is a member of the Wee Burn Country Club, the Blind Brook Club, the Cape Cod National Golf Club and the Cornell Club of New York City. He is a trustee of the Naval War College, the United States Army Command and General Staff College, Cornell University and a member of the Board of Overseers of the Weill Cornell Medical College. He enjoys golf, swimming, sailing and history.

Rich Sabreen was born in 1946 in Philadelphia, PA. where he graduated from Northeast High School in 1964. At the University of Pennsylvania he received a B.A. degree in 1968 and was an announcer with the university's public radio station. In 1971 he received an M.A. degree from Johns Hopkins School of International Relations.

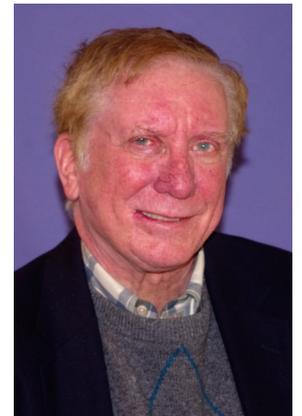


Rich began his varied career in media and communications as a reporter/producer with a Philadelphia radio and TV station. He then joined "Meet the Press" as a research assistant and later became a correspondent covering Congress and the White House for Group W, Westinghouse Broadcast in Washington, DC. In Miami, FL, he was a reporter/anchor

for WPLA-TV and went on to Cedar Rapids, IO to work for a consulting firm that did research for news programming clients. He later worked for Bloomberg News as worldwide general manager, TV and radio, and then Reuters in New York City as executive vice president and global head of media. He currently is president of Rich Sabreen Enterprises that provides TV program production and media consulting. He is a recipient of numerous awards including five Emmy's for "Keeping Kids Health" and an Emmy for "Outward Bound" with Martin Sheen. He is a former member of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences.

Rich and his wife Susan live in Stamford, CT., and have two children. He is a member of the Nutmeg Woodturners League and the Metro North National Model Railroad Association. He enjoys skiing, hiking, sailing, gardening and international travel

Charles Salmans was born in April 1945 in Washington, D.C. and grew up in Garden City, KA. He graduated from Wichita High School Southeast in 1963 where he was a member of the track and debate teams. He received a B.S. degree from Northwestern University in 1967 and an M.B.A. from the Columbia University Graduate School of Business in 1970 where he was editor of the Hermes student newspaper.



During his career in public relations he spent 39 years in New York City and five in London. He started in 1970 with Burson-Marsteller, moved on to Bankers Trust in New York City and London. He became head of corporate communications at JP Morgan Chase and later joined Bank of America. He was named global head of public relations at Mercer Consulting in 2005 and retired in 2014.

He and his wife Robin live in Darien and have three children. He is a member of the Columbia Club and enjoys traveling.

MEET OUR SPEAKERS

Wednesday, March 4, 2015

The Acabella singing group of 14 women from lower Fairfield County is a gifted ensemble known for its musically talented performers with a wide ranging repertoire. Their crowd-pleasing performances are well known throughout the area. Acabella was founded in 2001 by two women who loved to sing and were looking for an opportunity to sing again as part of a group. Membership in the group is by audition that includes musical exercises and a solo performance. Their musical backgrounds include singing in undergraduate and graduate choirs as well as performing on stage, with bands and in coffee houses.

Arranged by Alex Garnett

Wednesday, March 11, 2015

Tara Contractor, the Bruce Museum's Kress Interpretive Fellow, will present highlights of the current exhibition, "Northern Baroque Splendor: The Hohenbuchau Collection from Liechtenstein." There are 64 paintings covering the Golden Age of Dutch and Flemish art between the late 16th and early 18th centuries illustrating everyday life of that time. It is the largest art show ever at the Bruce Museum. The paintings are arranged chronologically and exhibit beautiful and alluring still-life pictures of fruits, intricate goblets and detailed tapestries. Also on display are landscapes of rural scenes, turbulent seas and tranquil rivers. In addition, portraits of an assortment of characters and emotions are shown. Well-known artists such as Gerard Dou and Peter Paul Rubens are included. Ms. Contractor is a graduate of Scripps College and the University of London Courtauld Institute of Art. She worked directly with the museum's director in organizing this outstanding exhibit.

Arranged by Frank Johnson

Wednesday, March 18, 2015

Jim Lewis will speak about the challenges facing today's franchisers and specifically McDonalds. Key issues include sharing rising costs and the lifespan of franchise concepts. He will also talk about the current government environment such as union organizing, the minimum wage, the income tax on LLCs versus C Corporations and the Affordable Care Act. In addition, he will cover real estate costs, the franchising business model, product perception, labor force challenges and

doing business in New York City.

Jim Lewis has been a part of the McDonald's system since 1986 and an Owner/Operator since 1993. He currently owns 17 McDonalds in Manhattan and Queens including the famous Times Square and 42nd St McDonald's. Jim lives with his family in Darien, CT.

Arranged by Tom Lom

Wednesday, March 25, 2015

Stuart Waack, head golf professional at the Silvermine Golf Club, will talk about his long time dedication to golf and the Professional Golf Association (PGA) Stuart is a strong player, an accomplished teacher and a consummate promoter of the game of golf. His passion for golf was recognized by the Metropolitan PGA when he received the MET PGA Junior Golf Leader Award. His well-defined curriculum for juniors of instruction, etiquette and rules give his young students a firm footing in how to play and enjoy golf. Stuart is a sought after golf instructor and club fitter. Stuart was first assistant at Woodway Country Club, Darien, CT from 1990 to 1998 and the Blue Hills Golf Course, Pearl River, NY from 1987 to 1990. He is a graduate of the University of Rhode Island where he played on the golf team.

Arranged by Alex Garnett

Wednesday, April 1, 2015

Jim Himes, congressman from Connecticut's 4th District in the United States House of Representatives, will talk about the latest issues facing our country today. He is a member of the House Committee on financial Services and the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence. Among the issues Jim follows are the Middle East, immigration, health care, energy, the economy and jobs to name a few. Jim was born in Lima Peru, to American parents and is fluent in Spanish and English. He graduated from Harvard and was a Rhodes Scholar. Prior to serving in Congress he ran the New York City branch of The Enterprise Community Partners, was commissioner of the Greenwich Housing Authority, a member of Greenwich's finance board and chairman of the Democratic town committee. He also worked for Goldman Sachs & Co becoming a vice president during

during his 12 year career. Jim lives in Greenwich with his wife and two children.

Arranged by Marc Thorne

Wednesday, April 8, 2015

James G. Rickards is an American lawyer, economist and investment banker. He is a regular commentator on finance, and will speak about his book, *The New York Times* bestseller *Currency Wares: The Making of the Next Global Crisis*, published in 2011.

Arranged by Gehr Brown

Wednesday, April 15, 2015

Jean-Paul Desrosiers, Jr., is a United States Marine Corps veteran, a semi-pro cyclist, marathoner and owner of Sherpa Fitness and Target Training. He will recount his journey during the toughest footrace on earth called the “Marathon des Sables.” It is a 156 mile long, five day race across the African desert. Desrosiers will talk about the physical and mental journey he took to prepare for and complete the race and how the experience challenged and expanded his views.

Arranged by Scott Kuhner

Wednesday, April 22, 2015

Chris Filmer will talk about the history of South Africa and his book *Famous Lives that Shaped World History*. Born in South Africa, Chris lived there and in England until 1977 when he moved with his family to the United States. His business career was spent in marketing and executive training, including twenty years with Pepsi Cola International. The extensive world travel involved in his job enhanced his lifelong fascination with world history. He started his book the day after he retired on February 1, 2000. It includes well know names such as Mao Zedong, Winston Churchill, Charles de Gaulle, Genghis Khan, Lenin and Martin Luther King. Chris is also an enthusiastic sportsman, conservationist and artist. A Darien resident, he is a member of the Friends of Selleck's Woods and a steward for the Darien Land Trust.

Arranged by Alex Garnett

Wednesday, April 29, 2015

Mark Albertson will talk about the causes of the First World War based on an eight-week course he teaches at the NCC Lifetime Learners Institute.

Mark notes that the causes of the First World War can be traced to the French Revolution. This upheaval unleashed upon Europe the ideas of the Age of Reason/Enlightenment — Liberalism, Democracy, Republicanism, Socialism, Secularism, Nationalism, Parliamentarianism. These ideas combined with the Industrial Revolution and evolution of modern warfare undermined the monarchical system that had ruled Europe for centuries and helped to bring on the War to End All Wars.

Arranger by Alex Garnett

SOCIAL EVENTS

The Social Committee started off this term with the Mystery Night dinner at St. Birgitta's Convent. The next event planned will be a trip to the 911 Memorial and lunch at Les Halles restaurant on March 19 (see flyer attached). The will be followed on May 21 with a Circle Line Tour of Manhattan and lunch at St. Andrews Scottish Restaurant & Bar on w. 46th Street. Spring activities will wrap up with the Annual Picnic at Weed Beach on June 11. In the plans for this fall is a tour on Sept. 17 of the Public Broadcast Studios and Museum of Natural History and our annual visit to Goodspeed Opera in Haddam to see *The Honeymooners*. A date for the Christmas Cocktail Party has not been determined. Watch for this!!

From the Editor: For all of us suffering from cabin fever with the late January to end of February weather, take heart, spring is only a few days away and another DMA volunteer opportunity will occur. That's the Annual Town Spring Cleanup. It will be in April and we do the station and Mechanic Street. Watch for the date!!

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