

Things Change over the Years

Have you ever been guilty of looking at others your own age and thinking, "Surely I can't look that old?" Well, consider this story...

My name is Alice, and I was sitting in the waiting room for my first appointment with a new dentist. I noticed his DDS diploma on the wall, which bore his full name. Suddenly I remembered a tall, handsome, dark-haired boy with the same name who had been in my high school class some 40 years ago. Could he be the same guy that I had a secret crush on way back then? Upon seeing him, however, I quickly discarded any such thought. This balding, gray-haired man with the deeply lined face was way too old to have been my classmate. Still, after he examined my teeth, I decided to ask him anyway if he had attended Roosevelt High School.

"Yes, yes I did. I'm a Mustang," he gleamed with pride.

"When did you graduate?" I asked.

"In 1965," he answered, "Why do you ask?"

"You were in my class!" I exclaimed.

He looked at me closely. Then, that ugly, old, bald, wrinkled faced, decrepit son of a bitch asked, "What did you teach?"

FEBRUARY SPEAKERS (Meetings are at 10:00 a.m. in Morrill Hall, St. Mark's Church.)

- Mar 6** Joe Darling will speak to us about the history of wolves in the United States, the importance of wolves in a healthy ecosystem and the efforts to save these magnificent creatures for future generations. He has been studying, tracking and photographing wolves for seventeen years. He has followed the Yellowstone National Park re-introduction since it's inception in 1995-1996 and has been a regular participant in the winter tracking programs there. He joined the *Wolf Conservation Center* in South Salem, NY as a volunteer in August of 2008.
- Mar 13** Jack Garcia will join us to talk about his experiences as an undercover agent for the FBI. In his 26 years of service with the FBI, he is best known for his undercover role as "Jack Falcone," a self-described Sicilian jewel thief and drug dealer from Miami, Florida, who penetrated the Gambino crime family of La Cosa Nostra in New York for nearly three years. He is also renowned for his roles in successful cases against corrupt politicians in Atlantic City, New Jersey; corrupt police officers in Hollywood, and Broward County Florida; Boston, Massachusetts, and San Juan, Puerto Rico.
- Mar 20** Liz Ann Sonders, Senior Vice President and Chief Investment Strategist for Charles Schwab and Co., will be our speaker. She is a graduate of the University of Delaware, and has an MBA in finance from Fordham. She will address several current questions, including:- Unprecedented stimulus ... is it working to unclog the credit markets?- Is the massive stimulus ultimately inflationary?- Where are we in the economic cycle?- What is the long-term impact of household sector deleveraging?- Are nascent signs of housing bottoming for real?- Is the cash mountain in Treasuries and money markets a bubble?
- Mar 27** Our speaker will be Charles Maxwell, who is a senior energy analyst at Weeden and Co. in Greenwich. Having retired in 1997, he came back to the oil and gas markets in view of his expectation that important changes in these sectors were about to unfold. Mr. Maxwell was educated at Princeton University and Oxford University, and initially worked for Mobil Oil in the Middle East. He'll address several current topics, including how we arrived at this energy quandary, how we are dealing with energy issues today, and what we can do that would be effective.

NEED A RIDE TO FRIDAY MEETINGS? Members are reminded that Getabout van service is available to and from our Friday meetings. Just call Getabout at 972-7433 one day in advance and sign up to travel with the others enjoying this service. Getabout asks for a donation of \$3 each way but does not require it. This is a great way to travel!! You can even arrange to be driven from the meeting to lunch or shopping downtown and taken home after that.

COUTH

- Mar 26 (Thur) Get a handle on Handel at our annual trip to a NY Philharmonic open rehearsal. British conductor Nicholas McGegan leads the orchestra in Handel's *Music for the Royal Fireworks* and two concerti, plus selected arias with the acclaimed German-born soprano Christine Schafer, who sings everything from Bach to Alban Berg. Lunch at Tavern on the Green. Depart St. Mark's at 7:45-8:00 a.m. Cost \$95.00 per person. Our host will be Tracey Mackle (966-1149).
- April A visit to the Sikorski Plant is being organized by our air commodore, Jack Murray. Stay tuned.
- May 13 (Wed) We'll have a visit to the Intrepid, the recently restored Essex class aircraft carrier housing a world class collection of period aircraft, artifacts and life stories of the brave men who served on her and the Concorde, the fastest commercial airliner ever built. A guided private tour will be followed by lunch at an area restaurant. Check-in and departure time TBD. Probable cost \$85.00 per person. Our hosts will be Pete Stair (966-6497) and Stan Stanziale (966-2862).

Plan ahead for Future Couth Trips:

- June - Cathedral of St. John the Divine in NYC
- September - Port of Newark Operations Tour
- October (?!)- Fall Cruise on the Hudson, and Army vs. Rutgers
- November - To Broadway for South Pacific
- December -

Please note: As a reminder, the Couth policy is as follows: The sign-up sheet is to be used as an indication of interest and intent to participate, but not to establish a reservation. The date of the check receipt by the Couth Committee will be the control of a confirmed reservation.

ACTIVITIES

- Amateur Chefs** The chefs will meet at Lapham Community Center on Thursday, March 19. Details to follow at the Friday meetings and on the website. Attendance is limited to 12 chefs.
Bert Liebelt (966-3696), Nick Zaccagnino (966-7217)
- Bridge** Bridge follows weekly meetings. Games last until about 2:00 p.m. Sign up before the meeting or at start of the break at the Couth Desk.
Eric Musa (966-3125)
- Paddle Tennis** Play on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 9:00 to 11:00 at Waveny. A Rec Department permit is required. \$10 ball fee.
George Perkins (972-6852)
- Photography** The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 10th at 1:30 pm in the Lapham Center Computer Room. Topics will be announced at SMC Meetings.
Jack Messert (966-8754)
- Racquetball** Players wanted. Mon, Wed, Fri 8:00 a.m. at the YMCA.
Bill Patton (966-4849)
- Skyblazers** The planes will be flying Monday, March 16 at 1:00 p.m. at Lapham Community Center.
Jack Murray (966-1416)
- Trailblazers** We're done for the season.
Ray Davis (940-3013)
- 4F Luncheon** Our informal, relaxing Dutch treat lunch is the Fourth Friday, March 27. The site will be announced at Friday meetings. All are invited to join in, especially newer members who will find the group always hospitable. Sign up at the Couth desk, either before 10 a.m. or during the coffee break.
Don Tiefenthaler (966-5794)

HELP GROW OUR MEMBERSHIP: Please stop by the Membership Committee desk just inside the door on Fridays and pick up an Application Form for the Senior Men's Club to give to a neighbor or friend. This is a good time to invite your friends to join as there is no waiting list. Paul Stein, Membership Chairman

MARCH MADNESS There are 64 teams in the NCAA basketball tournament. By having this be an exact power of 2, there is a neat set of brackets for the games. But what if there were an odd number - say 71 teams - instead of 64. How many more games would need to be played to determine the national champion?

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