



NEWSLETTER

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SMCNC.ORG

BREAKFAST

A 6 year old and a 4 year old are upstairs in their bedroom. The 6 year old says, "You know what? I think it's about time we started cussing." The 4 year old nods his head in approval.

The 6 year old continues, "When we go downstairs for breakfast, I'm gonna say something with "hell" and you say something with "ass". The 4 year old agrees with enthusiasm.

When the mother walks into the kitchen and asks the 6 year old what he wants for breakfast, he replies, "Aw, hell, Mom, I guess I'll have some Cheerios".

WHACK! He flies out of his chair, tumbles across the kitchen floor, gets up, and runs upstairs crying his eyes out, with his mother in hot pursuit, slapping his rear with every step. His mom shuts him in his room and shouts, "You can stay there until I let you out!"

She then comes back downstairs, looks at the 4 year old and asks with a stern voice, "And what do YOU want for breakfast, young man?"

"I don't know," he blubbers, "but you can bet your fat ass it won't be Cheerios!"

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

- Mar 4 Our speaker will be Joseph F. Pisani, a Principal of The Dilenschneider Group. Mr. Pisani has more than 30 years of experience in journalism, community relations and media product development. He has held editorial positions at metropolitan papers, including the *St. Petersburg Times* in Florida and *Newsday* on Long Island, but for much of his career, Mr. Pisani was editor and senior vice president of *The (Stamford) Advocate* and *Greenwich Time*, daily newspapers in Fairfield County, Conn. He continues to write a weekly column for the Hersam Acorn newspaper chain in Southern Connecticut.
- Mar 11 Our own SMC member Dr. Paul Strassmann will give us an update on some new activities in the Department of Defense Cyber Warfare Command, as well as a review of some new unmanned weapons. Paul is Distinguished Professor of Computer Science at the George Mason University, former Director of Defense Information at the Office of the Secretary of Defense and former Chief Information Officer of NASA.
- Mar 18 Eric Metaxas, the author of *Bonhoeffer, Pastor, Martyr, Prophet, Spy* will speak on how Rev. Dietrich Bonhoeffer opposed Hitler for years and, just before Germany fell, was executed on Hitler's direct order. Mr. Metaxas was the editor of the Yale Record. His humor writing was first published in the Atlantic Monthly, and has appeared in The New York Times. Eric's book and movie reviews, essays, and poetry have appeared in The New York Times and The Washington Post. Metaxas has been frequently featured as a cultural commentator on CNN and the Fox News Channel. He authored *Amazing Grace*, which became the acclaimed movie of the same name.
- Mar 25 Mitchell Krauss will address "The Middle East Today – An Overview." Mr. Krauss was a CBS News Correspondent for 25 years, including a stint as Middle East Correspondent, based in Cairo. From Egypt he travelled widely through the area, including Oman, Saudi Arabia, Israel and Sudan. He was at the scene when Sadat was gunned down. Prior to CBS, he was with Channel 13 in New York, where he anchored "Newsfront." Since leaving CBS, Mr. Krauss has chaired the Ambassador's Roundtable of the World Affairs Forum in Stamford where he and his wife have lived for the past 48 years.

SMC DUES BULLETIN. Your annual SMC dues for 2011 of \$40 are due and payable. Our collection campaign for calendar year 2011 dues is now in progress. Please give your check for \$40, payable to SMC, to Bob Spence or Wally Pease at any weekly meeting or send it to SMC, c/o YMCA, 564 South Avenue.

COUTH

- March** There is no trip planned for March.
- Apr 13 (Wed)** Our annual trip to the NY Philharmonic open rehearsal. Kurt Masur will conduct the Brahms Symphony No. 1 and Franz Liszt's Les Preludes (the other Lone Ranger theme). We will lunch directly across Broadway in the back room at Josephina's. To allow for traffic, check-in St. Mark's at 7:45 a.m., bus departs 8:00, to return about 4:00 p.m. Cost \$80 per person. Hosts Tracey Mackle (203-966-1149) and Pete Stair (203-966-6497).
- Apr 28 (Thur)** A Glass Hour tour day has been arranged. There will be 6 tours, starting at 10:00 am. Cost will be \$30 per person. These tours are scarce as hen's teeth, so sign up early at the couth table. Departures will be from the Glass House offices on Elm Street, and further details will be announced at Friday meetings.

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 (Check the website at SMCNC.ORG for updates)

- Amateur Chefs** The chefs will have an ODE TO SPRING at Lapham Community Center on Thursday, March 17. Details will follow at the Friday meetings and on the website.
Bert Liebelt (203-966-3696), Nick Zaccagnino (203-966-7217)
- Bridge** Talk with your friends and organize your own games after the Friday meetings. You may play at Lapham or stay at St. Marks.
Eric Musa (203-966-3125)
- Cycling** Cycling has been suspended until the spring when weather again permits.
Les DeVilliers (203-966-9645), Roger Colson (203-966-9258)
- 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.
Steve Rowley (966-2376), John Ross (966-8339)
- Photography** Stay tuned at the Friday meetings for information on the next meeting of the Photography Group.
Jack Messert (203-966-8754)
- Racquetball** Players wanted. Mon, Wed, Fri 8:00 a.m. at the YMCA. Bill Patton (203-966-4849)
- 4F Luncheon** Our informal, relaxing Dutch treat lunch is on the Fourth Friday. 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 (203-966-5794)

NEW MEMBERS - We have one new member since the last newsletter: Jono Bitting. Please welcome him when you see him at the meetings.

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.

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