

Some Benefits of Growing Older (with thanks to Marvin Newman)

In a hostage situation, you are likely to be released first.

It's harder and harder for sexual harassment charges to stick.

There's nothing left to learn the hard way.

Things you buy now won't wear out.

You can eat dinner at 4:00.

You enjoy hearing about other people's operations.

You no longer think of speed limits as a challenge.

You have a party and the neighbors don't realize it.

Your secrets are safe with your friends because they can't remember either.

Your back goes out more than you do.

Your eyes won't get much worse.

Your joints are more accurate than the National Weather Service.

You quit trying to hold your stomach in, no matter who walks in the room.

Your investment in health insurance is finally beginning to pay off.

APRIL SPEAKERS (All meetings will be at 10:00 a.m. in Morrill Hall, St. Mark's Church)

- Apr. 1** Congressman Christopher Shays will be our speaker, discussing some of his many recent activities, which include a trip to Southeast Asia to assess humanitarian relief for tsunami victims, introduction of the 9/11 Commission Implementation Act, passage of the House Transportation Bill, intelligence overhaul, building Iraq security forces and reconstruction, the Campaign Finance Reform Act, and more. He last spoke to SMC in January, 2002.
- Apr. 8** Douglas Marshman Jr., movie critic and Hollywood screen writer will tell us about his experiences in the industry, and of his inspiration and collaboration with Billy Wilder and Charles Brackett as a writer which resulted in the Oscar winning movie, "Sunset Boulevard". The movie won Best Picture, Best Score and Best Art Direction at the Academy Awards in 1950. Come explore Hollywood as only an insider can relate.
- Apr. 15** Nancy Malling will give a talk entitled "Who gets Grandpa's Gold Watch?" derived from a seminar she leads at Waveny. She will address problems of household downsizing and making decisions for allocation and disposition of treasured family possessions that have strong emotional attachment. Although Nancy is an attorney, her focus is on dealing with the relationships within the family and how giving away valued items may be received as a blessing or a burden.
- Apr. 22** Our speaker will be Roy Rowan, whose book "Chasing the Dragon" relates his experiences in China with the UNRRA and as a Life magazine reporter. Mr. Rowan, an army veteran of both the Mediterranean and Pacific theaters in WW 11, volunteered after the war for the UN China relief effort supported by President Truman, and eventually took over in China as correspondent for Life. To say the least, his adventures were hair raising in a politically and militarily dangerous climate.
- Apr. 29** Dr. Sigurd Ackerman, President and Medical Director of Silver Hill Hospital, will provide a current view of this nationally recognized hospital located right here in New Canaan. Silver Hill is the only independent, not-for-profit psychiatric hospital in Connecticut. It provides a full range of psychiatric treatment and services for adult and adolescent patients with mental illnesses or addictions. Silver Hill recently introduced new programs of transitional living to enhance recovery from these illnesses.

COUTH

- Apr 27 (Wed)** We'll visit the Museum of Modern Art (MOMA) in New York City. There will be a comfortable departure from St. Mark's lower parking lot at 10:15 AM, heading to lunch at noon at Tavern on the Green. From there we go to MOMA for a one hour guided tour of the brand new facilities. You'll then be free to explore on your own until our 5:00 departure for New Canaan. Price is \$95 per person. Hosts are Clancy Fautleroy and Pete Stair.
- May 12 (Thurs)** Enjoy a sparkling evening of fine dining and musical theater in New Haven. We have planned a dinner at the renowned Union League Café, followed by a performance of the classic musical, *Fiddler on the Roof*, at the Shubert Theater. Price per person is \$115. Check-in at St. Mark's at 3:45 for a 4:00 departure. Estimated return time is 10:45. Please sign up and confirm with your check. Seats are limited. Hosts are Ladd Seton and Bill Nissen.
- June 22 (Wed)** Take the train directly to NYC for a narrated, guided walking tour of historic downtown Manhattan. See Dutch New Amsterdam, English and early American New York. Lunch downtown on your own and ride the Staten Island Ferry before the direct train home. All transportation and Lumberyard parking included. Price is \$30. There's a limit of 30 people. Host and guide will be Pete Stair.

Please note: The newly stated 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

- 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. A post-meeting drawing establishes who'll go to Waveny House for play. Eric Musa (966-3125)
- Golf** First official round will be at the Country Club on June 1. Likely there will be a prior warm-up session at a local area public course, but that is not yet scheduled. Bob Moylan (966-9904)
- Paddle Tennis** Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 9 to 11 a.m. at Waveny. Play will continue until the tennis nets are up. George Perkins (972-6852)
- Racquetball** Players wanted. Mon, Wed, Fri 8:00 a.m. at the YMCA. Bill Patton (966-4849)
- Skyblazers** The planes are in the hanger until Lapham Community Center reopens, hopefully next September. Jack Murray (966-1416)
- Tennis** Play will begin Monday, Tuesday and Thursday at 8a.m. in Mead Park, once the nets are up, likely sometime in May. Craig Wright (966-4399)
- Trailblazers** We're off and hiking. April 18th, Joe Kelly will lead us at the Croton Aqueduct. May 11 we'll do Central Park, led by Pete Stair. Meet at 8:30 at St. Marks, bring water, a sandwich, a friend. No check required! Dave Branch (966-9782)
- 4F Luncheon** Selection of the site for the luncheon is announced at a meeting during the month. Sign up prior to or during break in fourth Friday meeting. Eric Petschek (966-0624)

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