

WHY MEN ARE NEVER DEPRESSED (With thanks to Jim D'Acosta)

Men are just happier people - what do you expect from such simple creatures? Your last name stays put. The garage is all yours. Wedding plans take care of themselves. Chocolate is just another snack. You can be President. You can never be pregnant. You can wear a white T-shirt to a water park. You can wear NO shirt to a water park. Car mechanics tell you the truth. The world is your urinal. You never have to drive to another gas station restroom because this one is just too icky. You don't have to stop and think of which way to turn a nut on a bolt. Same work, more pay. Wrinkles add character. Wedding dress - \$5000. Tux rental - \$100. People never stare at your chest when you're talking to them. New shoes don't cut, blister, or mangle your feet. One mood all the time. Phone conversations are over in 30 seconds flat. You know stuff about tanks. A five-day vacation requires only one suitcase. You can open all your own jars. You get extra credit for the slightest act of thoughtfulness. If someone forgets to invite you, he or she can still be your friend. Three pairs of shoes are more than enough. You almost never have strap problems in public. You are unable to see wrinkles in your clothes. Everything on your face stays its original color. The same hairstyle lasts for years, maybe decades. You only have to shave your face and neck. You can play with toys all your life. You can wear shorts no matter how your legs look. You can do Christmas shopping for 25 relatives on December 24 in 25 minutes. No wonder men are happier.

APRIL SPEAKERS (Meetings are at 10:00 a.m. in Morrill Hall, St. Mark's Church, except that April 3 will be at the Presbyterian Church.)

Apr 3 (Presbyterian Church) Our speaker will be Alice Knapp, the new (October, 2008) Director of the New Canaan Library. She will focus her remarks on the Board of Trustees' newly adopted mission and vision statements and how they are impacting the New Canaan Library service model. Ms. Knapp was previously the Director of Public Services for the Ferguson Library in Stamford Prior to that she served as Director of the Bethel CT and Canastota NY public libraries. She has a Master's Degree in Library Science from SUNY at Albany.

Apr 10 No meeting - Good Friday.

Apr 17 Yale professor Douglas Rae will speak to us on "Teaching Faith and Globalization with Tony Blair". Professor Rae received his PhD 1967 from the University of Wisconsin. He joined the Yale political science department in 1967. He is a former chairman of that department, and now holds the Richard Ely Chair in the Yale School of Management. Professor Rae is consulted frequently by the media for his views on urban development, reversing urban poverty, and regionalization.

Apr 24 Lou Sabini is a noted film historian/archivist who has spent a lifetime collecting, studying and preserving rare and classic films from Hollywood's Golden Age. Mr. Sabini studied under renowned film professor/author William K. Everson, when he attended School of Visual Arts in Manhattan. For over 80 years, since their initial teaming in 1927, Stan Laurel and Oliver Hardy have been called the "greatest comedy team of all time." Mr. Sabini will present a sampling of one of Laurel and Hardy's classic comedies, *Chickens Come Home*, with a discussion about the careers of these two master comedians.

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.

DIRECTORY PHOTOS On April 17 and again on April 24, Harvey Place and/or Ralph DiDomenico will be taking photos of members for the next directory. They'll start about 9:20 a.m., and will also do photos at the meeting break. We need photos of all NEW members, and will also be happy to update the photos of old members if you wish.

COUTH

Apr 27 (Mon) We'll visit the Sikorski Plant in Stratford for a tour lasting 1 and 1/2 hours. It involves a lot of walking. Lunch will be optional and determined by the number of people who want to sign up for lunch. Limit is 30 people. We will car pool from St. Mark's, leaving at 9:00 a.m. Your hosts will be Jack Murray (966-1416) and Bob Spence (966-6499).

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

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 (Check the website at SMCNC.ORG for updates)

Amateur Chefs The chefs will meet at Lapham Community Center on Thursday, April 16. Details will 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)

Golf The season will open with a date in the latter half of April. Stay tuned at the Friday meetings or on the website for more details.
Harvey Place (966-1821)

Paddle Tennis Play on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 9:00 to 11:00 at Waveny. Play will continue until the tennis nets go up, likely mid-May.
George Perkins (972-6852)

Photography The Photo Group will meet Wednesday, April 1 at 1:30 pm at Lapham Center in the Large Craft Room to prepare new hangings (photos and frames) for Lapham walls. We need 8" by 10" or 11" by 13" photos (B&W or Color).
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 Tuesday, April 21 at 1:00 p.m. at Lapham Community Center.
Jack Murray (966-1416)

Trailblazers The first hike of the season is tentatively planned for mid to late April. Stay tuned at the Friday meetings or on the website for more details.
Ray Davis (940-3013)

4F Luncheon Our informal, relaxing Dutch treat lunch is the Fourth Friday, April 24. 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

Answer to last month's March Madness Puzzle There is always exactly one less game than the number of teams in a single elimination tournament. So if you add 7 teams, you add 7 games, no more, no less.

Dave Hunt, Editor (email: dlhplato@optonline.net)

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