



NEWSLETTER

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A RACE TO A PERFECT ANSWER

A Connecticut senior citizen drove his brand new Corvette convertible out of Karl's and headed for the Merritt. He got the car up to 80 mph, enjoying the wind blowing in what little hair he had left. He flew down the Merritt pushing the pedal even more. Looking in his rear view mirror, he saw a Connecticut State Trooper with blue lights flashing behind him. "What am I doing? I'm too old for this!" and pulled over to await the trooper's arrival. The trooper got out of his car and walked up to his window. He looked at his watch, then said, "Sir, my shift ends in 30 minutes. Today is Friday. If you can give me a new reason for speeding...a reason I've never heard before...I'll let you go." The old gentleman paused then said: "Three years ago, my wife ran off with a Connecticut State Trooper. I thought you were bringing her back!" The trooper smiled and said, "Have a good day, Sir!"

YOGI-ISMS - fifth and final installment - (thanks to Alan Fleischer)

Carmen Berra, Yogi's wife asked him: "Yogi, you are from St. Louis, we live in New Jersey and you played ball in New York. If you go before I do, where would you like me to have you buried?" Yogi's answer? "Surprise me!" |-| As a general comment on baseball: "90% of the game is half mental" |-| "I really didn't say everything I said"

APRIL SPEAKERS - (Meetings are at 10:00 a.m. in Morrill Hall, St. Marks Church)

April 5 Paul Strassmann, Contributing Editor of the Armed Forces Communications and Computer Journal and past Chief Information Officer of the Department of Defense and NASA, joined a partisan commando unit in Slovakia behind German front lines at age 15. He will describe the geography, the casualty rates and the change in operations from raids on railroads until his squad retreated into high mountains to survive one of the coldest winters ever in Slovakia. He holds the highest level medal a civilian can receive from the Sect. of Defense.

April 12 Robert Steele, author of *The Curse: Big-Time Gambling's Seduction of a Small New England Town*, and past director of the NY Mercantile Exchange, CME Group and the American Stock Exchange, will discuss his compelling and timely book. *The Curse* is set against the explosion of casino gambling that hit Connecticut during the 1990's when two Indian tribes built the world's two biggest casinos. WNPR described the story as an "epic story of history, money and politics that will make you wonder where America is headed."

April 19 Craig Wright, fellow SMC member, making his fourteenth presentation to the Club, will be speaking on yet another vacation destination through seven countries of Eastern Europe. The speech entitled, *Plagues and Palaces - Eastern Europe*, will describe how the structure of the villages, towns and cities contributed to the spread of the Black Death and how the devastation of the multiple waves of Bubonic and Pneumonic Plague affected the culture and architecture of this area.

April 26 Rob Mallozzi, First Selectman, Town of New Canaan. Since Rob's last visit with the SMC in March of last year, our town and citizens have certainly experienced some historical events. His perspective on events and our town's well being is always a major event for our group. The First Selectman, as the Chief Executive, is responsible for the procurement and administration of all functions and services required by the Town Charter. Don't miss this first "State of the Town" presentation.

SMG DIRECTORY PHOTOS/REVISIONS

Starting March 22nd and every Friday thereafter through April 26th, we will be taking new and current member photos before the Friday meetings. New members need a photo and others may want to update their present photo. Also, if there are any revisions you'd like to make to your personal info in the Directory, please contact Jerry Transue (203-966-6050).

AARP DRIVING PROGRAM - Roger Colson is leading a Safe Driving Class at Lapham on April 16th. Students over 60 will receive a certificate entitling them to a state mandated insurance reduction of at least 5% for two years. Spouses are invited. Cost \$15, \$12 for AARP members. Checks payable to AARP. And due to popular demand, a second class is being scheduled the next day on Wednesday, April 17th. Please sign up at meetings or contact Roger at rochar@aol.com or 203-966-9258.

COUTH

Tuesday, April 9th - Culinary Institute of America - Check in no later than 8:15am to be available for the 10:30am tour of the institute; lunch at 11:30am; return at 3:30pm. \$70/per. Ladd Seton (972-8786), Bob Spence (966-6499)

ACTIVITIES - (Check the website at SMCNC.ORG for updates)

- Amateur Chefs** April lunch will be Thursday, April 18th at Lapham; 12 Noon; \$15 will hold your reservation. Nick Zaccagnino (203-966-7217), Bert Liebelt (203-966-3696)
- Bridge** Talk with friends and organize your own games after Friday meetings. Eric Musa (203-966-3696)
- Golf** The first outing of the year: Wednesday, April 24th at Fairchild-Wheeler, Black course. Tee time is 9:38am and the fee is \$35 including cart. This first outing we will play a scramble. The next outing will be Tuesday, May 7th at Sterling Farms. Further details will follow. Harvey Place (203-966-1821)
- Investments** April meeting: Thursday, April 18th, 10:30am at Lapham. Harry Hitch (203-966-1947)
- Mystery Books** Tuesday, April 16th, we will continue with the tough guy series, delving into the works of Raymond Chandler and Mickey Spillane. Phillip Marlowe and Mike Hammer will be beating up on the bad guys at the meeting and Lapham. Brian Hollstein (203-972-0633)
- Photo/Computer** Stay tuned at the Friday meetings or check website. Jack Messert (203-966-8754)
- Tennis** Will start at Waveny when nets go up! Ted Foster (203-966-4002)
- Sidewalks - NY** Wednesday, April 17th, we'll take the 8:49a train to 125th St and walk to Central Park. We will visit the Harlem Meer and the Spring Conservatory gardens; then lunch on upper Madison Avenue. Rain date is Thursday, April 18th. Guests welcome but limit of 20 people. Pete Stair (203-966-6497)
- Paddle Tennis** POST SEASON PADDLE PARTY-Monday, April 15th , 6-8pm at Waveny Castle. Cost: \$5 Steve Rowley (203-966-2376), John Ross (203-966-8339)
- 4F Luncheon** Details of April's Fourth Friday lunch, April 26th, will be announced at future meetings. Don Tiefenthaler (203-966-5794)

A COMMUNITY-WIDE CPR TRAINING EVENT - A Hands for Life CPR training event will be held Sunday, April 7th, 10a-4pm at the YMCA. No advance registration required. Goal is to train 1,000 community members. Training takes only 15minutes and can save lives. Visit: handsforlifewecan.com.

NEW MEMBERS - We have added two new members since last month. David Anderson and Hans Dijs. Welcome, David and Hans! We are delighted to have you with us.

WORDS FROM THE PREZ - April, what a month!! We start it off with April Fool's Day on the 1st. The 7th is Divine Mercy Sunday, Holocaust Remembrance Day, and World Health Day all wrapped up into 24 hours. Of course, we can't forget the 15th when we all have to pay taxes followed by Earth Day on the 22nd. April 26th is Arbor Day, which is always the last Friday in April in the US, and is a holiday in which individuals and groups are encouraged to plant and care for trees. As I always say, we do have some terrific speakers during the month, so bring a prospective member and get them to sign up. Go out and make it a great month!!