

SPECIAL FUN EVENT AT THE YMCA On Sunday, July 16, as a service to all SMC members and their spouses, the Y will open - just for us - for recreation from 5 until 7, followed by snacks. This event will be repeated on Sunday, August 13. Depending on member interest, it may be continued into the fall and winter.

The Y will offer use of most of its facilities, including the swimming pool and the fitness center, and will staff appropriately for us. There will be a modest per person charge to cover part of the cost of the snacks, and the Y will contribute the rest. If you are a member of the Senior Men's Club of New Canaan, you and your spouse are eligible to participate. You do not need to be a member of the YMCA. And since this is a private, after-hours event, there will be plenty of parking available on site.

Sign up by calling **XYZ** at the Y at 966-4528. **HE/SHE** can also answer any questions you might have. We hope to have a great turnout for the first event on July 16.

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

- July 14** Joseph Blackburn, author, photographer, and mountain climber, will tell us of his experiences climbing Mr. Everest and other major peaks. An accomplished climber, Mr. Blackburn accompanied and documented the historic first ascent, without bottled oxygen, of the East Face of Mt. Everest in 1988. His work has been featured in many places, including on NBC's Today Show, in the New York Times, and in Sports Illustrated. A graduate of the Art Center College of Design in Los Angeles, he has also studied privately with Ansel Adams, whose influence continues to be recognized in his work today.
- July 28** The manager of the Bridgeport Bluefish, Dave LaPoint, will be our speaker. He began coaching in 1992 in the Dominican Republic, and since has extensive coaching experience with Major League Baseball organizations as well as in winter baseball. He spent 12 years in the major leagues, including a stint as a starting pitcher with the World Champion St. Louis Cardinals in 1982. LaPoint is the fourth manager in Bluefish history.
- Aug 11** Our speaker will be Julian Padowicz, speaking on the topic "A Streetcar Named Eternity." A documentary filmmaker for 35 years, he was born in Lodz, Poland. He lived in Warsaw in 1939 when the Germans bombed the city, and at age 7, he and his mother survived 6 months of Soviet occupation before dramatically escaping over the Carpathian Mountains. He then came to the US, where he graduated from Colgate. A Stamford resident, he is the author of a Holocaust-related memoir entitled "Mother and Me", and is currently writing a sequel to it.
- Aug 25** Captain Eric Roitsch, recently retired from the Army, with the majority of his service being in the elite 5th Special Forces Group. He was among the first U.S. Force Packages to infiltrate into both Afghanistan and Iraq in support of the war on terror. In Iraq he operated in the notorious enemy safe haven known as the Triangle of Death, where he was wounded in battle and forced to return to the US for rehabilitation and transition to private life. He is a recognized authority on guerilla warfare, terrorism, and Homeland Security. A graduate of Greenwich HS and Auburn University, he resides in Greenwich.

SMC WEBSITE - From time to time, members have information that they would like to have posted to the SMC Website. If you have something that you feel should be posted, please send it to webmaster@smcnc.org. All postings must be pre-approved by the SMC President.

COUTH

July 29 (Sat) We return for our annual outing to the Great Connecticut Jazz Festival in Moodus CT. Come hear your favorite bands from around the world back at the old stand in Moodus, on the Connecticut River. Cost will be \$50 per person, check-in at St. Marks at 8:15 a.m. Clancy Fauntleroy and Bob Woshala will host.

August No trip is scheduled at present. Check Friday meeting announcements for any changes.

Sept 13 (Wed) It's musical comedy time at the Goodspeed Opera House, following a lunch at La Vita Gustosa in East Haddam. We will see the Tony-award winning *Pippin* from Stephen Schwartz (Composer of *Wicked*). For a preview, visit www.goodspeed.org/shows/pippin.htm. The price will be \$99 per person. Check in TBD at St. Mark's. Our host will be Bob Witt.

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 We'll resume our cooking sessions on the third Thursday in September.
Bert Liebelt (966-3696), Marvin Newman (972-8165)

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 The next outing is on June 27th, when we'll be at Oak Hills (Directions: www.oakhillsgc.com) in Norwalk, tee time of 10:30, and the price is \$56.50. July 10, we will play at the Ridgefield Golf Course (directions: www.ctgolfer.com/directories/public.html#ridgefield) Tee time is 10:00 a.m. and the price is \$38. Then, on August 9, we'll return to Whitney Farms (Directions: www.whitneyfarmsgc.com) in Monroe. Tee time will be 9:30, price is \$45.
Bill Kapp (966-4033)

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 fall. Jack Murray (966-1416)

Tennis Play on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday at 8a.m. in Mead Park
Craig Wright (966-4399)

Trailblazers Our next hike will be August 16 on the Housatonic Rail Bed in Trumbull. This old rail bed was laid in 1840. This is an easy 5-mile hike and will be led by Ray Kotch. Meet at St. Mark's at 8:30. Bring water, lunch, a friend. No check required!
David Branch (966-9782)

4F Luncheon The next 4F Luncheon will be held July 28th at the Stamford Yacht Club. Check Friday meeting announcements to see if there will be a lunch in August. Eric Petschek (966-0624)

PARTING SHOTS

A blonde gets tired of it all and dyes her hair. She is now a brunette, and feels much smarter. Everyone tells her she is smarter, so she goes for a drive in the country one day, and stops in a lane which is blocked by a herd of sheep.

She gets out of her car, talks to the farmer, and says, "If I can guess how many sheep you have, can I have one?" The farmer looks perplexed, but thinks why not, so he says, "Sure." She thinks for a moment, and says, "Uh...157." The farmer says, "My God, that's correct! Take a sheep."

She wanders among the herd and likes several, but finally is very attracted to one that wags its tail and licks her. She picks it up and puts it in the car. The farmer then says, "If I can guess what color your hair really is, can I have my dog back?"

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