

Veterinary Humor (with thanks to Eric Musa)

A woman brought a very limp duck into a veterinary surgeon. As she placed her pet on the table, the vet pulled out his stethoscope and listened to the bird's chest. After a moment or two, the vet shook his head sadly and said, "I'm so sorry, your pet has passed away."

The distressed owner wailed, "Are you sure?" "Yes, I'm sure. The duck is dead," he replied. "How can you be so sure?" she protested. "I mean, you haven't done any testing on him or anything. He might just be in a coma or something."

The vet rolled his eyes, turned around and left the room. He returned a few moments later with a black Labrador Retriever. As the ducks owner looked on in amazement, the dog stood on his hind legs, put his front paws on the examination table and sniffed the duck from top to bottom. He then looked at the vet with sad eyes and shook his head. The vet patted the dog and took it out and returned a few moments later with a beautiful cat.

The cat jumped up on the table and also sniffed the bird from its beak to its tail and back again. The cat sat back on its haunches, shook its head, mewed softly, jumped down and strolled out of the room.

The vet looked at the woman and said, "I'm sorry, but as I said, this is most definitely, 100% certifiably, a dead duck."

Then the vet turned to his computer terminal, hit a few keys and produced a bill, which he handed to the woman. The duck's owner, still in shock, took the bill. "\$150!" she cried. "\$150 just to tell me my duck is dead?!"

The vet shrugged. "I'm sorry. If you'd taken my word for it, the bill would have been \$20. But what with the Lab Report and the Cat Scan, it all adds up."

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

Dec 7 Christmas Luncheon at the New Canaan Country Club, at noon (no regular morning meeting.) Spouses are invited. Make reservations with, and pay Charlie Morris (\$40 per person in advance, \$45 at the door). Also, please bring a gift for a boy or girl, ages 4 to 10, for the Salvation Army Toy Collection. It would be appreciated if the gifts were wrapped. Please be sure to attach a tag indicating the appropriate age and sex for the recipient

Dec 14 Dr Li Poa Chief of Cardiac Surgery at The Stamford Hospital will speak to the Senior Men's Club on the Advances in Cardiology and Cardiac Surgery. He will be joined by Dr. Thomas Nero of the newly formed Cardiac Interventionalist Cardiology Unit. Dr. Poa is the new Chief and Program Director of Cardiovascular Surgery at the Stamford Hospital Heart and Vascular Institute as well as being Associate Professor of Surgery at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons. He is most known for his pioneering work in the fields of beating heart minimally invasive coronary bypass surgery, endoscopic cardiac surgery, mitral valvular repair, and thoracoscopic ablation surgery. He was one of the pioneers of epicardial ablation therapy and developed the thoracoscopic unilateral approach in the treatment of atrial fibrillation in 2002

Dec 21 No Meeting.

Dec 28 No Meeting.

DUES FOR 2008 Jim Davis, club treasurer, will be happy to receive payment of your Senior Men's Club dues of \$35 for the 2008 calendar year. While not due until January, 2008, your early payment will help out by eliminating the need for follow-up reminders. You may pay Jim or Joe Elmlinger any Friday, by check to SMCNC, or mail your payment to SMC, c/o YMCA, 564 South Avenue, New Canaan, CT 06840.

COUTH

Dec 5 (Wed) We leave for New Haven and an early dinner at Brazis Italian Restaurant. Then we will walk to the Long Wharf Theatre to see the 7 p.m. performance of *The Santaland Diaries*. From eccentric Santas to maniacal moms, hilarity ensues as this irreverent tale of America's fascination with all things Claus returns for a second holiday turn. Check-in at St. Marks at 3:15 p.m. Cost is \$85 per person, and our host will be Bob Spence (966-6499).

Jan 30 (Wed) Save the date for our annual New York Philharmonic Rehearsal followed by lunch at Tavern on the Green. Details will be provided at Friday meetings and the January Newsletter.

Future Couth trips will be announced at the Friday meetings when more information is available.

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 The chefs are taking off the month of December, but will meet again in January.
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 Lapham Center for play.
Eric Musa (966-3125)

Paddle Tennis Play on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 9 to 11 a.m. A Rec Department permit is required. \$10 ball fee.
George Perkins (972-6852)

Photography The photography group will meet on a December date to be determined. Announcements will be made at the Friday meetings.
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 on Tuesday, December 4, at 1:00 p.m. at Lapham Community Center. The next flight will be Monday, January 14, also at 1:00 p.m.
Jack Murray (966-1416)

Trailblazers The season is over, and we will resume in the spring.
David Branch (966-9782)

4F Luncheon As is traditional, we shall not have a 4F luncheon in December. Everyone wants to conserve their appetites for the holiday tables. We will resume in the new year with a special event on the fourth Friday, January 25th.
Paul Stein (966-1252)

CLASSES AT LAPHAM - Here are some of the upcoming class offerings and activities at the Lapham Community Center. There's a free Travel with Globe Trecker series of travelogues being shown in the computer center starting December 17. Sign up now, for classes beginning in January. The classes include: Write Effective Letters to the Editor (free, John Kovach will lead), The American Civil War (also free, led by Rod Aspinwall), Operetta in the 20th Century (\$30 fee, Dr. Jerry Schulster leading). There will also be a ferry trip to Port Jefferson on May 22 (\$75 fee) Call 594-3629 for registration and further information about any of these.

EDITOR'S NOTE - Many, many thanks to Jack Messert for stepping in with no advance notice to produce the November newsletter. It is much appreciated!

Dave Hunt, Editor

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