



NEWSLETTER

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SMCNC.ORG

GRANDPARENTS - FROM THE GRANDCHILD'S PERSPECTIVE

She was in the bathroom, putting on her makeup, under the watchful eyes of her young granddaughter, as she'd done many times before. After she applied her lipstick and started to leave, the little one said, "But Gramma, you forgot to kiss the toilet paper good-bye!" I will probably never put lipstick on again without thinking about kissing the toilet paper good-bye...

My Grandparents are funny, when they bend over; you hear gas leaks, and they blame their dog.

My grandson was visiting one day when he asked, "Grandma, do you know how you and God are alike?" I mentally polished my halo and I said, "No, how are we alike?" "You're both old," he replied.

I didn't know if my granddaughter had learned her colors yet, so I decided to test her. I would point out something and ask what color it was. She would tell me and was always correct. It was fun for me, so I continued. At last, she headed for the door, saying, "Grandma, I think you should try to figure out some of these yourself!"

When my grandson asked me how old I was, I teasingly replied, "I'm not sure." "Look in your underwear, Grandpa," he advised, "mine says I'm 4 to 6."

A 6-year-old was asked where his grandma lived. "Oh," he said, "she lives at the airport, and when we want her, we just go get her. Then, when we're done having her visit, we take her back to the airport."

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

- Dec 3 SMC Member Jim Lisher, Chairman of the Health & Human Services Commission of New Canaan, will speak to us on the final report from the Senior Health Care and Housing Policy Development Team. Besides the Senior Policy project for the town, Jim is active in a broad range of both business and non-profit activities in New Canaan, New York City, Connecticut and the tri-state area. On the business side, he was for 31 years the Chairman/CEO of Lisher & Company, Inc. where he led innovation strategy planning and new product development assignments in over 70 Fortune 1,000 companies. He retired from the practice in 1998 to start STRIVE Fairfield County, doing job training among low income youth.
- Dec 10 Our speaker will be John Laurence Busch, historian and author of *STEAM COFFIN* (The story of Captain Moses Rogers and the steamship Savannah breaking the barrier). He will attempt to recalibrate your mind before showing why the proposition of making the first crossing of the Atlantic Ocean on a "steamship" was met with a mixture of skepticism and fear. Mr. Busch is an independent historian who has scoured archives and libraries from Portland, Maine to Savannah, Georgia, and across the Atlantic Ocean to the far reaches of Europe, in search of new information on the voyage of Captain Moses Rogers and the Steamship *Savannah*.
- Dec 17 The Annual Christmas Luncheon will be held at the Country Club of New Canaan. Bring your spouse or significant other. Price will be \$45 per person (\$50 at the door), and entertainment will be by the Bluenotes. This year there will be a choice of entrée - beef or salmon. Make your choice when you make your reservation with Rad Stone. Give him a check at the meeting, or mail to him at 35 Lakeview Avenue. Also, please bring a wrapped gift for a young girl or boy, with a tag on it indicating the appropriate age range and gender for the gift.
- Dec 24 No meeting – Christmas.
- Dec 31 No meeting – New Year's.

SMC DUES BULLETIN. Our annual SMC dues have remained constant at \$35 since 2007. However, Club operating costs have increased and, as a result, the Board of Directors has approved a \$5 dues increase to \$40 a year for calendar year 2011. This action was ratified by vote of the members at the July 23 weekly meeting. Our collection campaign for calendar year 2011 dues is now in progress. Please give your check payable to SMC for \$40 to Bob Spence or Wally Pease at any weekly meeting or send it to SMC, c/o YMCA, 564 South Avenue..

COUTH

December There will be no couth trips in December.

January There is no trip planned for January.

The couth committee is now planning the trips for 2011. If you have any suggestions, please give them to Ladd Seton or Stan Stanziale.

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 not meet in December, but will resume in January.
 Bert Liebelt (203-966-3696), Nick Zaccagnino (203-966-7217)
- Bridge** Talk with your friends and organize your own games after the Friday meetings. You may play at Lapham or stay at St. Marks.
 Eric Musa (203-966-3125)
- Cycling** Cycling has been suspended until the spring when weather again permits.
 Les DeVilliers (203-966-9645), Roger Colson (203-966-9258)
- Paddle Tennis** Paddle has begun. Play on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 9:00 to 11:00 at Waveny. A Rec Department permit is required. \$10 ball fee.
 Steve Rowley (966-2376), John Ross (966-8339)
- Photography** The next meeting of the SMC photography group will be announced at Friday meetings.
 Jack Messert (203-966-8754)
- Racquetball** Players wanted. Mon, Wed, Fri 8:00 a.m. at the YMCA. Bill Patton (203-966-4849)
- 4F Luncheon** Our informal, relaxing Dutch treat lunch is usually on the Fourth Friday. However, due to holidays there will be no luncheon in December. The next luncheon will be in January.
 Don Tiefenthaler (203-966-5794)

NEW MEMBERS - We have one new member since the last newsletter: Mike Rodell. Please welcome him when you see him at the meetings.

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.

TIME FOR A PUZZLE- One grandfather, one grandmother, two fathers, two mothers, four children, three grandchildren, one brother, two sisters, two sons, two daughters, one father-in-law, one mother-in-law, and one daughter-in-law attended a family reunion. If both halves of each relationship attended (i.e., the father *and* the son), how many people showed up?

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