



NEWSLETTER

December, 2013
Vol. 38, No. 11
SMCNC.ORG

WIVES CAN SURE HAND IT OUT, BUT THEY DON'T TAKE IT VERY WELL!

A SMC member and his wife went to a 4H agricultural show and one of the first exhibits they stopped at was the breeding bulls exhibit. They went up to the first pen and there was a sign attached that read: *This Bull Mated 50 Times Last Year*. His wife playfully nudged him in the ribs, smiled and said, "That's almost once a week". They went to the second pen that had a sign that read: *This Bull Mated 150 Times Last Year*. His wife gave him a healthy jab and said, "You could learn a lot from him". At the next pen there was another sign reading: *This Bull Mated 365 Times Last Year*". His wife was so excited that her elbow nearly broke his ribs and said, "That's once a day! You could really learn something from this one!" Her husband looked at her and said, "Go over and ask him if it was with the same cow!" - Incidentally, her husband's condition has been upgraded from 'critical' to 'stable' and he should be well enough to attend SMC meetings again in a few weeks.

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS YOU'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO ASK - (thanks to Dave Hunt)

WHY do we press harder on the remote control when we know the batteries are getting weak? <-> WHY is it that when someone tells you that there are one billion stars in the universe you believe them, but if they tell you there is wet paint you have to touch it to check? <-> WHY did Kamikaze pilots wear helmets? <-> HOW COME you never hear father-in-law jokes? <-> HOW do those dead bugs get into the enclosed light fixtures? <-> WHOSE cruel idea was it to put an "s" in the word "lisp"? <-> WHY is it that there never seems to be a day that mattresses aren't on sale? <-> WHY is it that when you attempt to catch something falling off a table, you knock something else over?

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

December 6 Leon Krolkowski, Police Chief of the New Canaan Police Department, has been interim chief since June, has been with the department for 24 years as a Captain and Commander of the Staff Services and Operations division. He is a graduate of the FBI National Academy, has a law degree from Quinnipiac University and is a 2013 MBA candidate at the University of Massachusetts. He will be discussing some of the changes he'd like to make to improve the department's service to the New Canaan community.

December 13 NO MEETING - Annual Christmas Holiday Luncheon For All Members And Wives at the New Canaan Country Club. Cash bar and "munchies" opens at 11:30am; lunch served at 12:20pm. Choice of a "man's cut" of roast beef and delicious salmon; salad, dessert and wine are included. Socialize with old friends and make new ones. Open seating and easy parking. Cost is \$55 per person in advance; \$60 at the door. Make reservations Friday at the Couth table or mail check to Paul Stein, 172 Oenoke Lane, New Canaan, CT 06840. Please write on your check your choice of salmon or beef. Any questions, call Paul (203-966-1252).

December 20 Ed Hynes will be speaking on *The 1777 Danbury Raid* and *The Battle of Ridgefield*. He will touch on the British landing 1800 men on Compo Beach to destroy the Patriot's supplies stashed in Danbury; highlight the Patriots resistance and will follow the British on their four-day raid and the Patriot's attempt to deny them safe return to their ships. Sure brings this period of history directly into our backyard! Ed is a Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) and currently a Financial Advisor with Merrill Lynch in Westport, CT.

December 27 NO MEETING - Christmas Holiday

SMC YEARLY CLUB DUES NOTICE - Gentlemen, thank you for your 2014 club dues payment. There are still a number of members who have yet to pay. So as a reminder, please submit your \$50 payment at our next meeting in cash or check, or you can mail your check to SMCNC, c/o YMCA, 564 South Avenue, NC, CT. 06840. And a special "Thank You!" to those who have paid an extra amount over the \$50 to help balance our budget.

COUTH

>>>> Events are currently being planned for 2014. Expect future trips to be announced soon! <<<<

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

- Amateur Chefs.** On Thursday, December 19th the Amateur Chefs will hold an Old Fashioned Holiday Buffet at Lapham Center, 12 Noon. \$15 holds the reservation. Questions? Contact Nick Zaccagnino (203-966-7217) or Bert Liebelt (203-966-3696).
- Bridge** Talk with friends and organize your own games after Friday meetings.
Eric Musa (203-966-3696)
- Mystery Books** By popular demand, we will be reading and discussing Sue Grafton's alphabet titled murder mysteries in December. As usual, we will digress to talk about current criminal topics and antics of our elected politicians in Washington, the vast majority of whom are not crooks. We meet at Lapham Center and the date will be announced at an upcoming SMC meeting.
Brian Hollstein (203-972-0633)
- Investments** December 10:30am meeting at Lapham is pending. Stay tuned. Harry Hitch (203-966-1947)
- Paddle Tennis** Play on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays; 9am-11am at Waveny. A Rec. Dept. permit is required.
Steve Rowley(203-966-2376, John Ross (203-966-8339)
- 4F Luncheon** No luncheon in December is planned. Don Tiefenthaler (203-966-5794)

Question: Would anybody be interested in starting a Bocce group? If there is enough interest, the town may build a Bocce surface in Mead Park. If you have an interest, please contact Martin Reiss (203-966-2797).

DISTINGUISHED NEW CANAAN SENIOR MEN NOMINATIONS

Nominations are now being accepted for the Distinguished NC Senior Men's Award. If you know someone in the club with exceptional service to the club, to the NC community and the NC government, please consider nominating him for this recognition in 2014. SMC members may submit a nomination which describes titles, descriptions of service, length of services, funds raised and benefits provided to people or groups. Nominations are due Feb 15, 2014 and should be given to SMCNC President, Bob Spence. For more information, visit the Distinguished NC Senior Man section of the SMCNC website. Any questions, contact Ralph Hills (203-966-6211).

NOTES OF SMC BOARD MEETING 11/8/13 - Treasurer's report indicated that we are on the way to reach a break-even year, but there is still a significant deficit remaining on the books. It was urged that the club continue to appeal to its members to voluntarily add a little extra when paying their 2014 dues. Membership is steady at 418. Most of the discussion centered on how to attract new members. Suggestions included personal contact; tracking to find out if non-members download the newsletter; greater publicity on activities; changing the name from "Senior" to something more inclusive and publicizing that membership starts at age 55; sending a letter to prospective new members as was done last year, etc. Suggestions of any name change are welcome from members and will be discussed at the January Board Meeting. Paul Stein updated the Board on the Christmas party luncheon on December 13, encouraging everyone to attend. Other topics included having committee heads for 2014/2015 nominated and in place by April, prior to the annual meeting in May.

NEW MEMBERS - Very happy to announce that we have three new members: Harry Emmons, Nigel MacEwan and David Holman. Welcome to the SMCNC, gentlemen! We are delighted you have joined us.