



Y's Men of Meriden - Newsletter

October 2018

www.ysmenofmeriden.com www.facebook.com/ysmenofmeriden

October Programs

Officers

Chairman	Paul Scollan
Vice Chairman	Mike Rohde
Asst. Vice Chairman	Bill Puttre
Secretary	Dewey Dow
Asst. Secretary	Tom Marshall
Treasurer	Sherwin Borsuk
Asst. Treasurer	Joe Giannetti
YMCA Rep.	Mark Burwick
Past Chairman	Mark Burwick

Directors

Dewey Dow
Jim Teagle

Committee Chairmen and Associates

Awards	Jim Teagle
Bridge	Paul Lamoureux
Coffee	Steve Volpini
	Ken White
Cribbage	Walt Ziemba
CyberSeniors	Dennis Kababik
General Activities	Bill Glick
	Sherwin Borsuk
Walking	Mark Burwick
Historian	Bill Glick
Hospitality	Joe Giannetti
Membership	Bob Newcomb
Newsletter/website	Peter Burch
Special Events	Bruce Burchsted
	Lenny Cheerman
Story Tellers	Ken M. White
Technology	Jack Brooks
	Matt Bushey
	Richard Grossman
Volunteer Services	Joe Kata

Time to pay your dues!

Cash or check for \$10 payable to "Y's Men of Meriden".
Bring to the meeting or mail to Sherwin Borsuk, 80 Parker Ave., Meriden, CT 06450

Oct 2 Presenter: Mike Rohde Story Teller: Frank Donovan
Program: Drew Harris, Associate Dean, Professor of Management, Central CT State University

"Myths and Realities about Entrepreneurship and the Role of Public Policy in Shaping the Entrepreneurial Landscape"

One would think the U.S. is in a froth of start-ups, but, in fact, we have seen a steady 30 year decline in start-up activity nation-wide. What other myths and mis-impressions do we hold about entrepreneurship, and what are the realities? This talk explores some little considered potential causes of our decline in business vitality.

Oct 9 Presenter: Peter Burch Story Teller: Jack Bush
Program: Janet Barrett, author

"They Called Her Reckless - The Story of One Extraordinary Horse"

Acquired to haul the heavy shells uphill to the 75mm recoilless rifles, a small Korean pony named Reckless became the Marines' indomitable warhorse, serving for two years in the Korean war zone, packing more ammunition than anyone thought possible, saving lives, raising spirits, and winning the love and respect of all who knew her.

Oct 16 Presenter: Mike Rohde Story Teller: Jim Brooks
Program: Dick Boynton, former President of Space Electronics, Inc.
"Traveling by houseboat in colorful Kerala"

The Kerala region of southern India is a remarkable success story. Our trip took us to ancient Hindu temples carved out of solid rock cliffs, colorful Buddha shrines, street markets, and waterways that went deep into the back country.

Oct 23 Presenter: Peter Burch Story Teller: Phil Callan
Program: Irving Moy, American Civil War historian
"Asians and Pacific Islanders and the Civil War"

A popular misconception of the Civil War is that it was fought exclusively by white Anglo-Saxons and Blacks, but many ethnic groups took part in this great struggle. However, few people are aware that Chinese were among them, and the highest ranking of those, Joseph Pierce, was a member of Co. F, 14th Connecticut Volunteer Infantry.

Oct 30 Presenter: Mark Burwick Story Teller: Lenny Cheerman
Program: Catherine Onyemelukwe, author and speaker
"An Insider's Look at Nigeria Past and Present"

Catherine's personal memoir "Nigeria Revisited: My Life and Loves Abroad" follows her journey as a 21-year-old Peace Corps volunteer to Nigeria where she encounters relationships, hardships, dangers, surprises and ultimately the unbreakable bond that develops between her and a complicated country she continues to love to this day.

News Items

• Maurice Poirier described the many joys of having his wife retire, including a visit to the Garlic Festival where he could purchase garlic aftershave lotion!

• Bill Wheaton noted that he is turning 90 y/o this month.

• Sherwin Borsuk proudly announced the arrival of a new granddaughter.

• Dick Boynton returned to the Ysman after three months

in Canada and Europe. He recounted how the government officials in Vancouver warned its residents about the heat wave in August, recommending that they stay indoors and make sure they stayed well hydrated. The top temperature during this emergency: 79 degrees F.

• Paul Scollan described the ESL program in Meriden where he volunteers. Martha Colaresi, wife of Ysman member John, is the director for the Meriden/Wallingford branch. Ysman member Sean Stewart also volunteers with ESL.

Bridge



- Sept 11 No games today
- Sept 18 **1st** Ken White (11 pts); **2nd** Marv Beloff (10½ pts);
3rd Jim Chapman (10 pts)
- Sept 25 No games today

Cribbage



- Sept 11 (+49) Joe Young, Walt Ziemba over Joe Giannetti, Ron Carlstrom
- Sept 18 (+16) Jim Brooks, Joe Giannetti over Joe Young, Ron Carlstrom
- Sept 25 (+47) Bob Young, Ron Carlstrom over Jim Brooks, Joe Giannetti

Wise Words for Y's Men

Little-known Engineering Conversion Factors:

- Time between slipping on a peel and smacking the pavement = 1 bananosecond
- Half a large intestine = 1 semicolon
- 1,000,000 aches = 1 megahurtz
- 2000 mockingbirds = two kilomockingbirds
- Shortest distance between two jokes = a straight line

Volunteering

Wherever you turn, you can find someone who needs you. Even if it is a little thing, do something for which there is no pay but the privilege of doing it. Remember, you don't live in the world all of your own."

Albert Schweitzer

Treasurer's Report

Sept. 27, 2018 \$3168.99

<u>Date</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Raffle Winner</u>
Sept 11	50	Frank Donovan (2 in a row)
Sept 18	59	Marvin Beloff
Sept. 25	62	Phil Callan

Y's Men record attendance of 89 was set on Oct. 19, 2004

<u>Guests</u>	<u>Introduced By</u>	<u>Date</u>
David Grodzicki	Mike Rohde	9/27/18

CyberSeniors

Seven CyberSeniors met on Sept. 18 for their first meeting of the new year and began by hearing about members' computer problems, including recurrent "blue screen" crashes, robocalls, and credit card hacks. The new appearance of the Chrome browser was displayed; members seem to prefer the previous look. However, the new version offers the appearance of three autoreplies you can select (based on the content of the incoming email), a snooze feature allowing emails to reappear at a time you select, and a graphical link to an attachment while in the preview mode.

The husband had just finished reading the book 'Man of the House.' He stormed into the kitchen and walked directly up to his wife; pointing a finger in her face, he said, 'From now on I want you to know that I am the man of the house and my word is law. I want you to prepare me a gourmet meal tonight, and when I'm finished eating my meal, I expect a scrumptious dessert. Then, after dinner, you are going to draw me my bath so I can relax. And when I'm finished with my bath, guess who's going to dress me and comb my hair?'

His wife replies, 'The funeral director would be my guess'.

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Current recycling locations include Hartford, Bridgeport and Preston. At these facilities, bulky items are first separated followed by metals (which are sold), with the remainder being shredded (by large steel hammers) and incinerated at 1800 degrees F.; water in the boiler walls produces steam which then generates 68 megawatts of electricity. Incineration reduces trash by 85%, with the remaining 15% of ash being deposited in a lined landfill in Putnam.

Recycling at your home results in 540 tons daily (including paper, aluminum, glass, rigid and non-rigid plastics) at the Hartford facility; currently there is no tipping charge to trash haulers for recyclable items (as opposed to \$72/ton for bulk waste). The move to single-stream recycling in 2008 resulted in more material, savings for trash haulers (only need one employee per truck with no need for another to manually separate recyclables and a reduction in worker's compensation costs by 75% as no human lifting required), an increase in "wishful" recycling (propane tanks, pots and pans, and furniture – should never be in recycling container), and contamination of glass by paper, ceramics and organic residue. The largest contamination of recycling waste: plastic bags which should go in regular trash.

Other industry challenges include glass bits chewing up conveyor belts, China's recent embargo on recycled trash (causing recycled newspaper to crash from \$90 to \$30 per ton), and expensive out-of-state transportation of refuse which cannot be processed in-state. And then there is the aging of the state's facilities which likely will need expensive rehabilitation soon.

September Programs

Sept. 11 - Kashia Diaz Cave, Founder of My City Kitchen “From the Ground Up - my journey building My City Kitchen”

Introduced by Mike Rohde

The Y’s Men of Meriden kicked off its 27th season on Sept. 11 with 50 members returning from a summer hiatus. The featured speaker was Trinidad-born Kashia Cave, now a Meriden resident and founder of My City Kitchen (MCK), a 501(c)3 non-profit organization dedicated to teaching children the art of cooking and eating healthy foods.

Cave, trained at Lincoln Culinary Institute in Shelton, has a passion for teaching youth how to prepare unique food dishes that are fun to create, to prepare and to consume. Having taught her two sons how to cook (both now have careers in the restaurant business), she founded MCK in 2009 to spread this knowledge to other boys and girls in the community. Classes, scheduled during hours after school is recessed, are 1½ hours in length and provide education on food history, different cultures, and foods and dishes that are unique to different parts of the world.

Cave has worked with students from the public school system as well as the Boys and Girls Club, DCF, Beat the Street, Rushford, and local and state juvenile detention centers. Espousing a quote by the legendary Julia Child, “no one is born a great cook, one learns by doing”, she presented a series of slides showing children preparing pasta primavera, creation of oatmeal cookies by a wheelchair-bound student, and teaching the preparation of crepes by a renowned French chef.

Cave has become widely known with numerous awards and was selected as one of 12 chefs featured in the 2016 Aetna African American Black History Calendar as a pillar in the culinary arts. Her students have been recognized by Fox News and WTNH. She chronicled one boy from a detention program whose family had given up on him; with patience, he learned to cook and has now won numerous awards. Some of her students have visited France and Italy for additional cooking instruction.

But it hasn’t been a walk in the park. Cave lost her Meriden location in 2015, effectively shutting down MCK. But with remarkable diligence, she recently secured a new location on Pratt St. where the cooking school will be reborn, and where she plans to open a café serving breakfast and lunch.

Sept. 18 - Susan Granger, Movie/drama critic for SSG Syndicate “Hollywood: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow”

Introduced by Peter Burch

What a storied Hollywood background! Her father, S. Sylvan Simon, moved from Warner Brothers to MGM in the 1930’s as a movie producer and director, where he directed Red Skelton’s first starring movie “Whistling in the Dark” and later movies by Wallace Beery and Glenn Ford. Indeed, he was directing a Lana Turner movie at the time of his daughter’s birth. After his untimely death at age 41, her mother, a prominent Hollywood socialite, remarried well-known MGM

producer Armand Deutsch (“my second father”).

Susan Granger addressed 59 Y’s Men of Meriden on Sept. 18, first displaying several slides showing fragments of her Hollywood childhood, including parts as a child actress in movies with Abbott & Costello, Red Skelton, Lucille Ball ... and Lassie. She had not one, but two, godfathers: Milton Berle and Red Skelton. Today for more than 25 years she has been an on-air television and radio commentator and entertainment critic. Her commentaries, reviews and interviews are distributed around the world by SSG Syndicate.

After reviewing the golden years of Hollywood, Granger discussed the ongoing changes in the industry, with challenges posed by technology. Companies including Netflix, Amazon and Snapchat are increasingly producing their own inexpensive movies, drawing film buffs away from the theater and into the home. Typically, Hollywood movies are “windowed” for 90 days before being released on DVDs and other media, but this waiting period is often reduced by film piracy. Movie theaters are being endangered by these trends; even actors are being endangered, as they are replaced by inexpensive computer-generated animations. And in the future, we may be viewing movies as we travel in driverless cars with the film being displayed on the windshield.

Granger shared two anecdotes from her childhood and early adult life. As a child, she was dismayed when her father abruptly announced that her beloved horse had been sold to MGM’s Louis B. Mayer; that horse was soon to become the star, along with Elizabeth Taylor, in “National Velvet”. And later while interviewing family friend Jimmy Stewart in his home, he suddenly went outside at 1:20 pm to greet a tour bus, providing the riders with photos and autographs, and noting “these people on the bus are my partners; the least I can do is go out and greet them.”

Granger recently published “150 Timeless Movies”, drawn from the extensive list of her reviews. Many autographed copies were eagerly snapped up by members of the Y’s Men.

Sept. 25 - Thomas P. Gaffey, Director of Recycling & Enforcement, Connecticut Materials Innovation & Recycling Authority “Where does your garbage and recycling actually go?”

Introduced by Mike Rohde

“After the curb, where does it go?” Tom Gaffey, former CT State Senator for 16 years and today a self-proclaimed “trash talker”, addressed 62 Y’s Men of Meriden on Sept. 25 with a PowerPoint program about the complexities of efficiently collecting, transporting and disposing of our waste.

Gaffey, Director of Recycling & Enforcement for the Connecticut Materials Innovation & Recycling Authority (MIRA), must deal with 3.6 million tons of garbage annually in Connecticut. Trash in CT used to be hauled to a dump, a practice still used in most states, but replaced here by mandatory recycling since 1989 (so there are no longer any operating landfills). He also discussed the rehabilitation of the Hartford landfill, started in 1930 and eventually becoming an eyesore with extensive pollution of groundwaters adjacent to the Connecticut River, but now surrounded by a moat, covered with 4000 solar panels and a destination for ornithologists.

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