



March 2019

The Y's Women Newsletter

GENERAL MEETINGS

Open to members and their guests

Place: Temple Israel, Westport
10:45 am Coffee and Conversation
11:30 am Meeting and Speaker

We must enter through the doors from the upper parking lot. There are a limited number of parking spaces in the upper lot; please leave them for those who have difficulty walking. Others please park in the lower lot and walk to the upper entrance.

Monday, March 11

Jennifer Pehr, The Important Role of Land Use



Jennifer Pehr is a Senior Planner in the City Design Practice of Skidmore, Owings and Merrill (SOM), with a background in urban planning and public health. In addition to understanding how people interact with the built environment, she has significant experience in urban design, project coordination, and stakeholder

engagement with large, complex, and mixed-use projects in the US, Asia, and sub-Saharan Africa.

She will discuss the role of land use in North America's urban growth and resource management as well as the role it can and should play in our future. Following a brief contextual overview, Jennifer will focus on these provocations:

- ◆ How are values reflected in the utilization of land?
- ◆ What does North America's use of land and resources say about our culture and values?
- ◆ Are there shared sentiments across the continent? What about competing ideas?
- ◆ What are the key issues facing North America?
- ◆ What might a relevant plan in the future look like?

Monday, March 25

David Pogue, *Otocast*

Before he became a well-known *New York Times*/CBS/Yahoo/PBS "techno expert," David Pogue was a musical theater extraordinaire. He has a BA degree in music from Yale university, and spent the early years of his career conducting and arranging Broadway musicals.



Last October David entertained many of us as the moderator of "Thinkers, Educators, Artists" at Westport Town Hall. The theme was "The Arts Go Viral!" Speakers included Jerry Goehring, producer of "Be More Chill" and pianist/arts educator, and Westport's Frederic Chiu, a former Y's Women speaker/entertainer, who covered the pros and cons of how technology affects art and vice-versa.

David will present *Otocast*, a mobile tour app that enables any Westporter or visitor to explore our town's arts, cultural, and historic sites. Originally a project of the Westport Arts Advisory Committee, this app is available free of charge for iPhones and Androids. It provides details on Town Hall, Veteran's Green, the "Tunnel Vision" arts installation, Westport Historical Society, Main Street, the Saugatuck River, the Pavilion, the Westport Country Playhouse, and other attractions. Among *Otocast*'s creative offerings is "From Saugatuck to Riverside," which covers Westport's original center all the way to the Ruth Steinkraus Cohen Bridge, blending audio from well-known voices and natives discussing our beloved Remarkable Book Store, Sally's Place, and changing views of Main Street.

SATELLITE GROUPS

(Y's Women Members ONLY)

Book Group 2 will meet on Thursday, March 7 from 1:30 to 3:00 pm at Panera Bread, located in Westport at 1860 Post Road East (next to Home Goods). The book to be discussed is *A Month in the Country* by J .L. Carr, and the discussion will be led by Nancy Burke. Please contact Arlene Bloom at 254-9096 or bloomah@sbcglobal.net to RSVP.

Book Group 3 will meet on Friday, March 8 at 10:30 am at Panera Bread in Westport. Our book for discussion is a *New York Times* notable selection, *The Poison Squad* by Deborah Blum. It is the true story relating how a US government chemist led the crusade for food safety at the turn of the 20th century. New members are welcome. Please contact Doris Levinson at 227-3371 or drjlevinson@gmail.com if you'd like to attend.

The **Movie Club** will meet on Wednesday, March 20 at 1:30 pm at Panera Bread in Westport to discuss the movie *Roma*. "*Roma* follows Cleo (Yalitza Aparicio), a young domestic worker for a family in the middle-class neighborhood of Roma in Mexico City. Delivering an artful love letter to the women who raised him, [Writer and Director] Cuarón draws on his own childhood to create a vivid and emotional portrait of domestic strife and social hierarchy amidst political turmoil of the 1970s." *Roma* has received many positive reviews, two Golden Globe Awards, and ten Oscar nominations (including nominations for Best Movie, Best Director, and Best Actress). It is available on Netflix. If you wish to be added to the email list for future events, please contact Margaret Mitchell at margaret06824@yahoo.com or 255-9094. New members and all other interested participants are welcome.

Wise Investment Group: We invite you to join W.I.G. (the Wise Investment Group), and help to co-manage the group's stock portfolio. Our guiding principles are the three E's – education, enjoyment, and earnings. There is a buy-in (\$\$\$) to join the portfolio and an additional monthly charge to buy new stocks. Our next meeting is on Thursday, March 28. Contact our president, Lois Block, for details at loisblock@optonline.net or 761-1177.

Please continue to bring your gifts of non-perishable food to the first general meeting of each month. They are much appreciated by needy clients of the Mercy Learning Center in Bridgeport. Questions? Contact Jean McGurk at 222-0501.



Singer/Songwriter Julie Foldesi entertained the Y's Women with selections from her bluegrass-inspired music at the General Meeting on February 11.

LUNCHESES WITH SPEAKERS

We encourage a small group of members to have lunch with the speakers, at a Westport restaurant, following their presentation.

If you would like to join us, please contact Barb Stephen at dynamier@optonline.net.

Solos will be having a brunch on Sunday, March 17 at 12:30 pm to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. This event will take place at the recreation room of 597 Westport Avenue in Norwalk, across from Whole Foods. Agnes Flynn will be our hostess for the afternoon. Please send your check for \$25 to Joan Weinstein – Solos, 46 Tannery Lane South, Weston, CT06883. WEAR GREEN!

Join the **Lunch and Trivia** bunch for fun and knowledge on Thursday, March 28 at noon at Via Sforza on Post Road West in Westport. Please contact Arlene Bloom at bloomah@sbcglobal.net or Ann Lloyd at aslloyd@optonline.net if you are ready for a lunch and fun bash.

Carpool and Go!

On Friday, March 15, please join us for an absorbing and engaging trip down memory lane when visiting the Barker Character, Comic and Cartoon Museum in Cheshire, CT. The 80,000 items in the private collection are the result of a collecting bug of toys and trinkets started by Herb and Gloria Barker in the late 1940s. If something was made with a character on it, chances are it is in this museum, which opened in 1997. You will find Betty Boop, Mickey Mouse paraphernalia, all the Disney characters, Shirley Temple, Batman, Howdy Doody, Captain Kangaroo, and myriad other recognizable characters to delight baby boomers and older. This is your chance to reunite with your childhood! The museum is a veritable toy box with the oldest toy, a pair of cast-iron elephant "ramp walkers," made in 1873. A gallery and gift shop will be open for your browsing and purchasing pleasure.



We will meet behind the Wells Fargo bank in Trader Joe's parking lot at 9:15 am for a 9:30 departure. The guided museum tour will cost \$4 per person. Please call Charlene Boyer at 434-2953 or email her at cboyer1991@att.net to reserve your place. Mail a check for \$4 payable to Charlene at 162 Governor Trumbull Way, Trumbull, CT 06611. The gas reimbursement for your driver will be \$6 in cash. Please indicate whether you can drive, as drivers are **always** needed and appreciated.

Following our tour, we will lunch at Viron Rondo Osteria, 1721 Highland Avenue, right down the street from the museum. The phone number is 439-2727.

TRIPS

BEAUTIFUL BROOKLYN: Wednesday, May 15

Join the Y's Women and spend the day in Beautiful Brooklyn. The first stop is a guided tour of **The Brooklyn Museum of Art**, which exhibits collections that seek to embody the rich artistic heritage of world cultures. From the Museum we will head to the well-loved Brooklyn classic **Juniors Restaurant**, for lunch with pre-selected entrees. Following lunch we will visit the **Brooklyn Botanical Gardens**, a very special place that contains a large number of specialty "gardens within the Garden" plant collections. The total cost for the day is \$129 per person, all inclusive. Detailed flyers are available at the General Meetings or by contacting Pat Farmer.

PORTUGAL IN DEPTH: 11-DAY TOUR, September 12-23

This in-depth land tour of Portugal begins and ends in Lisbon and circles the country. Several Y's Women members have signed up for this exciting trip, which is being offered through Westport-based Travel Exchange. Our travel contacts are Fran Thomas and Dorothy Fox, both Y's Women. They may be reached at 221-3500. If you are interested in the trip, contact Fran or Dorothy and they will be able to give you all the details.

Detailed flyers for all trips are available at the Y's Women's General Meetings or by contacting Pat Farmer at 227-3076 or pahf02@gmail.com. If you are unable to attend a meeting and want a flyer, please contact Pat and she can mail you one either electronically or by snail mail. Many thanks!