



April 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, April 8
Larry Silver, Photographer



On April 8 it will be our pleasure to welcome Westport's beloved, world-famous photographer Larry Silver. Larry is widely recognized for his iconic photos of Westport, among many other subjects.

Larry has been taking photos since he was in his teens. Just recently, at 83/84 years old, he's gotten into Harvard – that is, Harvard's prestigious Fogg Museum of Art has acquired 20 of his world-renowned photos for their permanent collection. His images hang in museums around the world, including New York's Whitney Museum, Victoria & Albert Museum in London, Johnson Museum of Art at Cornell University, and the Figge Art Museum in Iowa. He has lived in Westport since 1973 and spent years documenting life in and around our town.

The presentation will feature “Larry Silver’s Connecticut,” a short video including many familiar scenes of Compo Beach, Sherwood Island, Longshore, and local roads and barns. Among these, his iconic “Shower Shot” and “Woman with Straw Hat.”

“The best years of my life have been spent in Westport,” Larry recalls fondly.

Monday, April 22
Sister Maureen Fleming, School Sisters of Notre Dame

Sister Maureen Fleming is Coordinator of Pastoral Outreach activities at St. Luke's Parish in Westport. Prior to this, from 1995-2005, she was Director of Caroline House, an education center for low-income immigrant women and children in Bridgeport started by her order.



Last year, scores of admirers from both the Assumption Church and St. Luke's joined to honor Sister Maureen on 60 years of religious service. In her current position, she serves as an advocate for women's and children's rights, education, and the fight against poverty. As an NGO registered with the United Nations, she participates in lectures and conferences dealing with women's and children's justice issues, especially human trafficking. Two years ago, Fairfield University honored Sister Maureen with an Honorary Doctorate Degree.

Sister Maureen will update us on human trafficking in Fairfield County – shocking but true. Women are trafficked in nail spas, where some are forced to be “escorts” at night. Women in similarly isolated situations work as dishwashers in restaurants all around us, or as cleaning ladies. One young woman came to Sister Maureen with a medical problem. When she asked the woman who was taking care of the family children and how much she was being paid, the answer was simple – and heartbreaking: “I get meals and a place to live.”

SATELLITE GROUPS

(Y's Women Members ONLY)

Book Group 2 will meet on Thursday, April 4 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 *Warlight* by Michael Ondaatje, and the discussion will be led by Bev Silverman. Please contact Arlene Bloom at 254-9096 or bloomah@sbcglobal.net to RSVP.

Book Group 3 will meet on Friday, April 12 at 10:30 am at Panera Bread in Westport. Our book for discussion is *Death Dance* by Linda Fairstein, best-selling author of crime novels that draw on her experience as a former prosecutor and head of the sex crimes unit in the Manhattan District Attorney's office. New members are welcome. Contact Doris Levinson at 227-3371 or drjlevinson@gmail.com if you'd like to attend.

The **Movie Club** will meet on Wednesday, April 17 at 1:30 pm at Panera Bread in Westport to discuss the movie *The Wife*. This movie "tells the story of Joan and Joe Castleman (Glenn Close and Jonathan Pryce), whose lives include youthful passion and ambition; their marriage of over thirty years; and a lifetime of shared compromises, secrets, betrayals, and mutual love. Joan questions her life choices as she travels with her husband to Stockholm, where Jonathan is slated to receive the Nobel Prize for Literature." *The Wife* received many positive reviews, nominations, and awards. In her role as lead actress, Glenn Close earned awards from the Golden Globes, Screen Actors' Guild, and others. She also was nominated for the Academy Award as Best Actress. *The Wife* is available as a DVD rental through Redbox, the Westport Library, and Fairfield Library. Rental or purchase is also possible through Amazon, YouTube, and other services. Availability is expected soon through Netflix and Amazon Prime. If you wish to be added to the e-mail list for future events, please contact Margaret Mitchell at margaret06824@yahoo.com or 255-9094. New members and all other interested participants are welcome.

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 dynamicer@optonline.net.

Solos will celebrate Spring by enjoying a brunch on Sunday, April 28 at 12:30 pm at Sedona, 515 West Avenue in South Norwalk. Weather permitting we will dine outside and receive separate checks. You must reserve your spot by contacting Joan Weinstein at 46tannery@sbcglobal.net.



Green was the color of the day as Solos celebrated St. Patrick's Day with a brunch in the community rooms of 597 Westport Avenue on March 17.

"April Shower"

We are collecting diapers of all sizes and new clothing for children – sizes newborn to toddler six – for the Mercy Learning Center in Bridgeport.

This is a great opportunity for our members, grandmothers and others, who miss buying baby clothes!

Please bring your donations to the General Meeting on Monday, April 22.

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, April 25. Contact our president, Lois Block, for details at loisblock@optonline.net or 761-1177.

The **Lunch and Trivia Group** will meet on Tuesday, April 30 at noon. More information will follow, but mark the date on your calendar.

Carpool and Go!

On Wednesday, April 17, Carpool and Go participants will see a very special traveling show, “**The Beyond: Georgia O’Keefe and Contemporary Art**,” at the New Britain Museum of American Art, its only venue in the Northeast. An innovative exhibition that celebrates her work and legacy, it features three dozen iconic works from important public and private collections as the centerpiece of a unique exploration. Grouped by theme, O’Keefe’s paintings and sculptures appear alongside works by 20 contemporary artists that evoke, investigate, and elaborate upon the images and approaches that mark her career – showing the lasting impact and legacy of her work as a touchstone for artists today.

We will have a docent-led tour of the show starting at 11:00 am, followed by a catered lunch (featuring assorted sandwiches and wraps with salad, chips, dessert, and bottled water) on the premises. There will be time to view other areas of the recently renovated museum as well.

We will meet as usual in the Trader Joe’s / Wells Fargo parking lot at 9:15 am for a 9:30 departure. To reserve your place (ASAP, please), email or call Lydia Menendez at lydiamnndz12@gmail.com or 319-1110 – and send a check made out to Lydia Menendez for \$43 (\$25 for the tour plus \$18 for lunch, all inclusive) to 388 Oldfield Rd., Fairfield, CT 06824. The gas reimbursement for drivers will be \$6 in cash. Please let us know if you are willing to drive – **drivers are always needed and appreciated!**

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.

The trip to Brooklyn will be a WONDERFUL trip. All of the venues are very special, and our group has not been there for several years. Please give thought and consideration to being a part of this group.

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.

Please fill out the Questionnaire included on the following page of this newsletter. The Travel Committee is trying hard to develop trips of interest for many people, and your input is important to us.

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!

Y's Women Trips & Travel Questionnaire 2019

Many of our members have expressed interest in more trips and travel selections. Increasing interaction and friendship among our members is one of the Y's Women's major goals, and these trips offer excellent opportunities for fulfilling this goal. As we explore potential new offerings, we would very much appreciate your input by completing this questionnaire.

1. Have you participated in any Y's Women trips? Yes No

If you have not participated in any trips, why not?

2. Would you be interested in day trips? Yes No

3. Would you be interested in trips that include overnight stays? Yes No

If yes: one night two nights longer (check all that apply)

4. We are considering many new destinations, among them the following. Please check any of these that might interest you:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grand Central Station Tour | <input type="checkbox"/> Roosevelt Island |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lincoln Center Backstage Tour and Rehearsal | <input type="checkbox"/> United Nations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Theodore Roosevelt Home in Cold Springs | <input type="checkbox"/> Radio City Backstage |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Broadway History Bus Tour | <input type="checkbox"/> Thimble Islands |

We welcome your suggestions for other trips. Please list up to three that might be of interest:

5. Do you have any physical limitations that prevent you from participating in trips? Yes No

6. Are there other trip providers with whom you are participating? Please list:

7. Would you be interested in helping to plan or organize future trips? Yes No

8. Do you have any additional comments to share?

Name _____ Email _____ Phone _____

Please return questionnaire to: The Y's Women, P.O. Box 53, Westport, CT 06881-0053

info@yswomen.org