



April 2023

The Y's Women Newsletter

GENERAL MEETINGS

Open to members and their guests

Place: Green's Farms Church, 71 Hillandale Road, Westport
10:45 am Coffee and Conversation
11:30 am Meeting and Speaker

April 10 - Martin Yellin, Wonders of the Universe



This unique presentation will give us an overview of the fascinating and sometimes weird discoveries made about the universe in the past 50 years. Thanks to inventions like the Hubble Space Telescope and now the James Webb Space Telescope, we have begun to answer questions such as

"How big is the universe, how old is the universe, how did it begin and how will it end, how did life begin?" and many more.

During his 33-year career at Perkin-Elmer, Martin Yellin, PhD helped design and manage the Hubble Space Telescope, the most productive space instrument ever built. He also worked on a top-secret program to design and build the largest spy satellite ever to be flown in space. Marty has BS and MS degrees in Electrical Engineering from City College of New York and a doctorate in Biomedical Engineering from New York University. Since his retirement in 1998, he has continued to study genetics and cell biology at NYU and is closely following the attempt to determine if life exists on the exoplanets we are discovering.

April 24 - Robert P. Wolterstorff, Be at the Bruce

The Bruce Museum in Greenwich opens on April 1 after a \$67 million expansion which should make it a world-class destination for art, culture, and science education. The renovation doubles the size of the building and provides more space for all four components



of its mission – Art, Science, Education, and Community. Without losing its distinctive character, the New Bruce seeks to be a vital center where we can engage with art and science, see a film, discuss contemporary issues, meet a friend for lunch, and make new friends. In this presentation, Robert Wolterstorff, PhD will give us a look at the re-imagined, re-invented Bruce Museum.

Robert has a Master of Fine Arts degree and a doctorate in Art History from Princeton University. Over a 30-year career in the arts and museum leadership, he has held curatorial and research positions at the Philadelphia Museum of Art, the Clark Art Institute, the Williams College Museum of Art and its Chapin Rare Book Library. He joined the Bruce Museum in 2019 as Susan E. Lynch Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer, and has overseen the Museum's ambitious and transformative renovation and expansion.

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 Vera DeStefano at vera@dcstructural.com.

SATELLITE GROUPS (Y's Women Members ONLY)

Note: Please remember that all Y's Women who participate in meetings held at the Westport Center for Senior Activities must be registered with the Center and check in before each meeting.

Book Group 2 will meet at The Westport Center for Senior Activities on Thursday, April 13 (a week later than usual) from 1:30 to 3:00 pm. We will discuss *The Vanishing Half* by Brit Bennett, and the discussion will be led by Alin Chelico. If you have any questions, please contact Nancy Bloom at nancyerb@aol.com or Arlene Bloom at bloomah@sbcglobal.net.

Book Group 3 will meet at the Westport Center for Senior Activities on Friday, April 14 at 10:30 am to discuss *My Father's Paradise* by Ariel Sabar. The discussion will be led by Valerie Roffe. If you have any questions, please contact Doris Levinson at drjlevinson@gmail.com.

The **Movie Club** will meet on Wednesday, April 19 at the Westport Center for Senior Activities. We meet informally at 2:00 pm to give members a chance to socialize, and our discussion begins at 2:30. We ask that all attendees have been vaccinated. We are limited to 20 attendees, so please confirm your attendance with Margaret Mitchell at 255-9094 or margaret06824@yahoo.com by April 15.

We will discuss the movies *The Ghost Writer* and *The Aviator*. *The Ghost Writer* was broadcast at 9:00 pm on Saturday, March 25 on the WNET network of PBS as part of Reel 13 Classics. *The Aviator* is available on Netflix until March 31. A DVD or streaming video of both movies is listed in the catalogs of the Westport and Fairfield libraries.

The Ghost Writer (released as *The Ghost* in the United Kingdom and Ireland) is a 2010 neo-noir political thriller directed by Roman Polanski. The film is an adaptation of a 2007 Robert Harris novel, *The Ghost*, with the screenplay written by Polanski and Harris. It stars Ewan McGregor, Pierce Brosnan, Kim Cattrall, and Olivia Williams.

The Aviator is a 2004 American epic biographical drama directed by Martin Scorsese and written by John Logan. It stars Leonardo DiCaprio as Howard Hughes, Cate Blanchett as Katharine Hepburn, and Kate Beckinsale as Ava Gardner. Based on

the 1993 nonfiction book *Howard Hughes: The Secret Life* by Charles Higham, the film depicts the life of Howard Hughes, an aviation pioneer and director of the film *Hell's Angels*. It portrays his life from 1927 to 1947, during which time Hughes became a successful film producer and an aviation magnate while simultaneously growing increasingly unstable as a result of severe obsessive-compulsive disorder.

If you wish to be added to the email list for future events, please contact Margaret Mitchell at 255-9094 or margaret06824@yahoo.com.

In April **Solos** will be going to the very popular **Osteria Romana** for an early dinner on Thursday, April 27 at 4:00 pm. We will be able to order off the menu and have individual checks. The restaurant is located at 250 Westport Ave, Norwalk. For reservations, please contact Terry Queirolo at 847-4121 or tmq44@icloud.com by Thursday, April 20.

The **Mah Jong Group** meets every Thursday from 1:00 – 4:00 pm at the Westport Center for Senior Activities. If you wish to attend, please contact Barbara Alfinito at barbsgetaway@aol.com or 205-533-1884 before each session. The number of players is limited to 12.

NewsTalk: Interested in national and world affairs? Join other Y's Women for lively discussions at NewsTalk. We will meet on Thursday, April 27 from 10:00 to 11:30 am at the Westport Library, room 2216 (McCall Room). For more information, please contact Doris Skutch at 247-3656.

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Twenty-three Solos members enjoyed a great luncheon at the Original Pancake House, a new restaurant in downtown Westport, on March 22.

SATELLITE GROUPS

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The **Lunch & Trivia Group** will meet at noon on April 20, the third Thursday of the month, at the VFW Hall. The cost is \$25. Please contact Annette Kirban at lakirban@optonline.net or 505-1187 if you are interested in attending.

The **Tai Ji Group** is now offering an in-person class at the Saugatuck Congregational Church. This class meets weekly on Wednesdays from 9:30 – 10:30 am. It focuses on breath relaxation and movement for grounding and balance to enhance our physical and mental well-being. The teacher is Ruby Shih, a long-term Tai Ji / Qi Gong teacher and founder of the Tai Ji School, Society of Nanalaoshu, in Manhattan. A fee of \$10 per session will be used to offset rental and insurance costs. If you are interested, please contact Ruby at Rubypalace88@gmail.com or 917-816-6661. The online Zoom class on Tuesdays at 11:30 am – 12:30 pm will continue for now unless participants decide to meet only in person.

Wisest Investment Group: We are looking for a brave new member to join the Wisest Investment Group as we try to navigate our joint stock portfolio. It's a Bull Market, and we've been there before. This would be a good time to buy in, as our portfolio has taken a dip like everyone else's. You will find intelligent minds reaching for a solution. We will meet on April 27, the fourth Thursday of the month. For more information, contact our President, Louise Demakis, at 254-6424 or lwdemakis@optonline.net.

Welcome to Our New Members

Y's Women is pleased to welcome seven new members who have recently joined our organization:

Angela Choniski	Lynne Rich
Lisa Greenberg	Jane Steinman
Judith Mappa	Joanne Zolowsky-Wynne
Rochelle Rasch	

Westport Library Needs Volunteers

Please consider volunteering for the Westport Library's Spring Book Sale. It will be held inside the Library on Friday, May 5 through Monday, May 8. Volunteers typically work in shifts of two or three hours on tasks such as manning entrances and exits, straightening tables of books while customers are shopping, tallying customers' purchases, and cashiering during these hours:

Friday, May 5: 8:30 am – 6:30 pm
 Saturday, May 6: 8:45 am – 5:30 pm
 Sunday, May 7: 10:45 am – 6:30 pm
 Monday, May 8: 8:45 am – 5:30 pm

CARPOOL & GO

We'll learn more about our state history when we drive to Hartford on Friday, April 21 and tour the Connecticut Historical Society and Library. After a guided overview of the society's holdings, we can visit two permanent exhibits – "Making Connecticut," with 500 historic objects, images, and documents collected from the 1500s through the present, and "Inn and Tavern Signs of Connecticut," which displays 60 rare signs documenting travel patterns from a century and a half ago. We can also view the special exhibit "The Bicycle Game." We will have lunch at Hartford's **Pond House Cafe** at 11:30 prior to our 1:30 tour at the Historical Society.



We'll meet at Trader Joe's at 9:45 am for a 10:00 departure. Please contact Jill Meyer at 226-4310 or jill@awayfortheday.net to reserve your place. Mail your check for \$10 payable to Jill at 40 Owenoke Park, Westport, CT 06880. The gas reimbursement for your driver will be \$10 in cash. Please indicate whether or not you can drive – drivers are **always** needed and appreciated.

Directions:

Pond House Cafe, 1555 Asylum Avenue, Hartford, CT, 860-231-8823, ext 1:

Take Merritt Parkway to Exit 68 North onto Rte. 91 toward Hartford/Middletown. Use the left lane to take Exit 32A-32B onto I-84 West toward Waterbury. Take exit 48 off I-84 toward Asylum Street. After passing Prospect Avenue, turn left into Elizabeth Park Conservatory where the Pond House Cafe is located.

Connecticut Historical Society, 1 Elizabeth Street, Hartford, CT, 860-236-5621:

Turn right onto Asylum Street and right again onto Elizabeth Street.

SAVE THE DATE

Spring Picnic and Annual Meeting

Monday, May 22, 11:30 am

Jackie Durrell Pavilion, Fairfield

More information to come in the May newsletter.