

# Silvermine News

Issue 35, March, 2007

Norwalk, New Canaan, and Wilton

[www.silverminenews.com](http://www.silverminenews.com)

Silvermine  
Community  
Association  
presents:



## SPRING PANGAKE BREAKFAST

featuring the  
EASTER BUNNY!



**March  
31<sup>st</sup>**

8am to 11am

At Silvermine School,  
Perry Avenue

# 6 ADULTS  
3 CHILDREN

PROCEEDS BENEFIT 2007 COLLEGE  
SCHOLARSHIP FUND



# 18th Annual Pancake Breakfast

On Saturday, March 31, the Easter Bunny will host the 18th Annual Pancake Breakfast! The best breakfast in town will be served in the cafeteria of the Silvermine School on Perry Avenue. Flapjacks start flipping at 8 A.M. and the syrup keeps flowing until 11 A.M. Admission is \$6.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children.

The Pancake Breakfast is a great opportunity to meet old friends and make new ones, catch up on the neighborhood news, or just escape the winter blahs! There will be games and face painting for the kids, too! So, stop in for a stack of cakes and stay for a cup of coffee. Bring the gang and don't forget to stay for the Special Membership Drawing!

## Special Membership Drawing

Once again this year, when you've paid your 2007 membership dues you'll receive a fantastic "buy-one-get-one-entrée-free" certificate from the Silvermine Tavern (compliments of Frank and Marsha Whitman).

This year your name will also be entered in the Special Membership Drawing for a chance to win up to 150 gallons of home heating oil, compliments of Steve's

Fuel and Reliable Oil (see the article below). All membership dues by the close of the Pancake Breakfast on March 31!

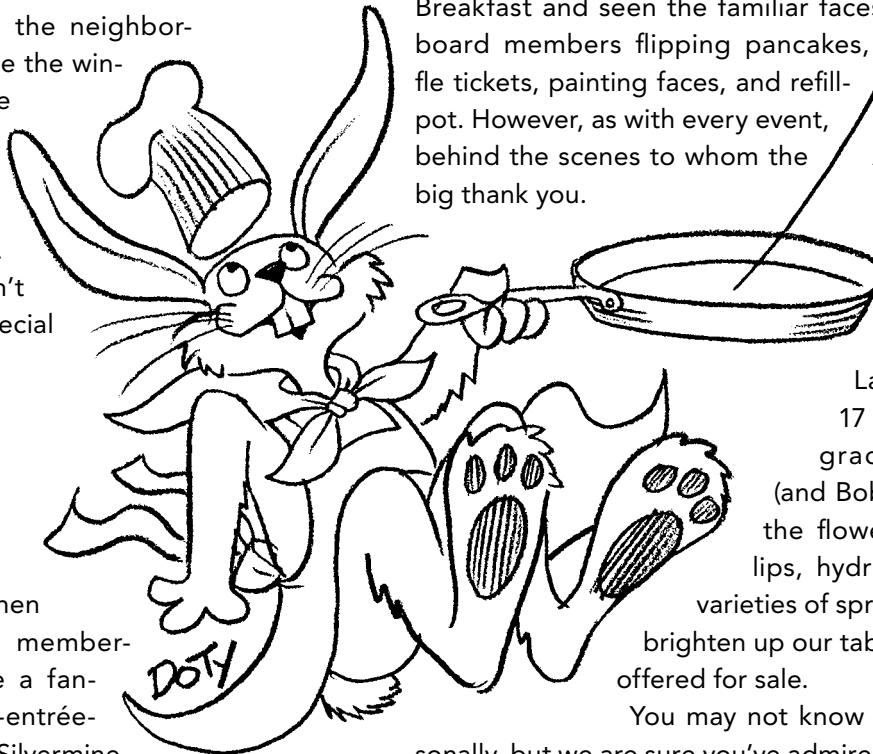
## Behind Every Good Event . . .

Many of you have attended the Annual Breakfast and seen the familiar faces of the SCA board members flipping pancakes, selling raffle tickets, painting faces, and refilling the coffee. However, as with every event, behind the scenes to whom the Association owes a big thank you.

Pancake of the SCA selling raffle tickets, painting faces, and refilling the coffee there are people the Association owes a

This year we'd like to extend a special thanks to Kathy and Bob LaCouture. For over 17 years, Kathy has graciously donated (and Bob has delivered) all the flowers—daffodils, tulips, hydrangeas and other varieties of spring flowers—which brighten up our table settings and are offered for sale.

You may not know Kathy or Bob personally, but we are sure you've admired the beautiful garden in their front yard. So give a neighborly wave and a "Hi" the next time you drive down Silvermine Avenue, and let them know how much you appreciate their continued support. The SCA extends a special thanks to these great neighbors!



## Up to 150 Gallons of Home Heating Oil—FREE!

Thanks to the Reliable Oil and Heat Co., Inc. and Steve's Fuels Oil, Inc. a randomly chosen SCA member will be receiving up to 150 gallons of oil! (If the 2007 membership is 350 or more, then 150 gallons will be awarded; otherwise,

100 gallons will be awarded.)

If you haven't already joined the SCA, join at the Pancake Breakfast so you'll be eligible for the drawing to be held at the Pancake Breakfast!

*Silvermine News* is published by the Silvermine Community Association. Contributions will be published upon discretion of the Editor and may be edited. Write to us c/o The Silvermine Tavern, 194 Perry Ave., Norwalk, CT 06850.

Editor: Jerry Gleason, [jerry\\_gleason@gleasongrp.com](mailto:jerry_gleason@gleasongrp.com).

**Find out about the Bread of Life Drive held during the Pancake Breakfast! — See page 6.**





C. Brown, W. Buttrick, M. Case, E. Casey, M. Cockcroft, B. Fengel, M. Ferrell, M. Frolich  
 R. Gulick, C. Hains, G. Heller, J. Jackson, V. Jennewein, N. Lloyd, A. McClean, J. McDonagh  
 F. Mixer, E. Noble, S. Ostasiewicz, J. Petersen, C. Robinson, N. Siegel, G. Schmitt, N. Timoshin

# Third Annual Silvermine "Artists in Residence" Show

The Third Annual Silvermine Artists in Residence Show, open for viewing beginning February 28, kicks off with a Meet & Mingle Cocktail Party for Silverminers on Friday, March 2 beginning at 6:30 PM. There is also an Artists' Reception, for out-of-town guests, on Sunday, March 11. The show continues through Sunday, March 18.

The artists are an eclectic group, including painters, sculptors, illustrators, cartoonists, printmakers, photographers, and graphic designers. They range in age from 17 to over 80, and many are professionally trained.

Come see what great artistic talent lives right next door to you in Silvermine today. You can boast in years to come that you saw the Third Annual "Artists in Residence" show!

## Call to Artists

### Artists in Residence to Show at The Flow of Art

The SCA Artists in Residence have been invited to exhibit at The Flow of Art, 16 River Street in Norwalk. Tentative dates: Receiving, October 1, for a show that runs from October 15 through November 15. If interested, contact Nancy Lloyd, [nmklloyd@yahoo.com](mailto:nmklloyd@yahoo.com) (subject: SCA AIR) or 972-9030.

## Have you joined the Silvermine Community Association?

**Support your neighborhood, support Silvermine!**

**Dues are only \$25!**



# Silvermine Art Colony: One Hundred Years Later

A group of talented Silvermine artists exhibited their work at the Lockwood Gallery in the Norwalk Museum from December 8 through December 22.

The artists exhibiting in the show included: Cynthia Brown, Walt Buttrick, May Anne Case, Edwina Casey, Michael Cockcroft, Megan Ferrell, Merion Frolich, Leigh Grant, Ron Gulick, Colleen Hains, Joyce Heck, Glen Heller, Karin Hillmer, Trudy Hodenfield, Jeanine Jackson, Virginia Jennewein, Nancy Lloyd, Jean McDonagh, Francis Mixer, Elizabeth Noble, Sarah Ostasiewicz, Clark Robinson, Jo Ryan, Gertrude Schmitt, Norm Siegel, and Natalie Timoshin.

The show was a celebration of the time, one hundred years ago, when Solon Borglum settled in the Silvermine area, leading to the formation of the Silvermine Art Colony. The Artists in Residence exhibit was both recognition of Silvermine's unique, long-standing artistic heritage and a demonstration of its position as a thriving home for talented artists today.

The opening reception, on December 8, welcomed a large crowd of Silverminers who enjoyed the sounds of the award winning New Canaan High School Woodwind Quintet and the sights of their neighbors' art work.

Norm Siegel and Walt Buttrick did a masterful job of promoting the show on local television. Walt also designed a postcard that was a work of art in itself. Colleen Hains provided publicity that drew crowds to the event.

For Silvermine artists interested in exhibiting your art next year, contact Nancy Lloyd by phone at 972-9030 or by e-mail at [nmklloyd@yahoo.com](mailto:nmklloyd@yahoo.com) (use "SCA Art Show" as the subject).

## THANK YOU

Friends of the Norwalk Museums, Inc. and the Norwalk Historical Commission for providing the gallery space. The Silvermine Market for happily providing the food that we all enjoyed at the opening.

## Judging Art in Silvermine

by Colleen Hains

Wanting to live in historic old Silvermine is usually driven by either a love of history or a need to live amid its charm. It is a neighborhood where you can close your eyes on a cold wintry day and see a sleigh pulled by broad-shouldered horses trotting down Comstock Hill.

People who find that their imagination comforts their soul, who spend a sufficient amount of time dreaming of charming scenes, and who find that creating art is their necessary fulfillment, are right here in Silvermine. They are the Silvermine Artists in Residence. This group is comprised solely of residents of the Silvermine area and provides a forum through which the area's artists can meet, exchange ideas, and form community ties.

As Solon Borglum did a hundred years ago, these artists derive much of their imagination and creative power from this historic neighborhood. They are unique among artist groups because they don't put their work on display to be judged. Many art associations jury or judge art work. A juried show is one where the art is reviewed and then

either accepted or rejected. Alternatively, other art shows accept all works, but then judge them.

Instead, the Artists in Residence group display their work simply for the viewer's enjoyment. The artists enjoy the pleasure that their art provides for friends, neighbors, and families. It's really you, fellow Silverminers, who are the judges of their art. So, come to the Artists in Residence art show—and judge for yourself!



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# Silvermine Tavern on the Market



The Silvermine Tavern, in the heart of Silvermine, is for sale! Frank Whitman, Jr., the owner and innkeeper, is selling the historic tavern, which has been in his family since 1955.

The history of the tavern goes back more than 200 years. It, and the mill next door, have been used to mill cotton and for manufacturing wooden knobs. In the nooks and crannies of the tavern, Frank has even discovered some of the old knobs that were produced by the mill. The wives of the farmers who lived in Silvermine were employed in finishing and painting the knobs.

The Tavern features a Colonial décor, with numerous antiques and paintings. Many a diner over the years has spent time appreciating the strange and wonderful portraits in the main dining room. One, in particular, looks like something straight out a late night wolf man movie!

Over the years many cultural events have been held there. Movie stars have stayed at the inn and movies have been shot there. Local historians have even made the argument that it was the real-life model for Irving Berlin's movie, *Holiday Inn*.

Frank admitted that it was a very hard decision to sell the tavern. His father bought the tavern and Frank and his wife, Marsha, have worked in it since 1973. Frank and Marsha will continue to run the tavern until a buyer is found. "It's business as usual," Frank said. "This is just the beginning of the process."

The property includes four buildings: the Tavern, the Old Mill, the Coach House, and the Country Store. The entire parcel is being offered at \$4.5 million.

Frank and Marsha have been leaders in the community—and wonderful neighbors. They have done much for Silvermine. We wish them well!

## Bread of Life Drive

The Silvermine Elementary School is one of 6 schools participating in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Bread of Life Drive ("BOLD") in March 2007. The University of Notre Dame Alumni Club of Fairfield County sponsors this food drive throughout the county, helping to collect food for the needy during what is typically a drought season at most food pantries. It also provides the opportunity for students to learn about persons in need and about giving back to the community. This year's drive takes place from March 26 through March 30. The ND Alumni Club and volunteers will be at **Silvermine Elementary School on March 31** sorting the food, preparing it for the various recipient locations, but not before enjoying themselves at the Silvermine Association's pancake breakfast. Working together, The University of Notre Dame Alumni Club of Fairfield County and The Silvermine Community Association asks anyone attending the pancake breakfast to donate to BOLD with one of two items: **oatmeal or pancake mix!**

BOLD welcomes any school, service, business, or religious organization to participate. Individual contributions are also welcomed. For questions, please contact Meg Samson at [megsamson@gmail.com](mailto:megsamson@gmail.com).

## Silvermine History Dinner: The Silvermine Tavern

The Silvermine History Dinner in April will focus on the Silvermine Tavern. Come hear about this historic building and the events that have taken place there. The event starts at 6:30 and the talk is free. You will need to make reservations for dinner, however. Call the Tavern at 84-4558. Check the website for the date, e-mail Jerry Gleason ([jerry\\_gleason@gleasongrp.com](mailto:jerry_gleason@gleasongrp.com)), or call him at 847-6658.

## Newsletter Costs

The single largest item in the budget for the Silvermine Community Association is this newsletter. To continue to print and mail out a paper copy of the newsletter to all residents of Silvermine, the Association needs your help! Please join the SCA. We will be accepting contributions and advertising in the future to help defray newsletter costs. Contact Jerry Gleason (847-6658) for more information.

# Scholarship Applications Due!

Mark your calendar! The deadline for scholarship application submission is fast approaching. If you are a high school senior or recent graduate interested in applying, then you must submit ALL of your supporting material to the SCA Scholarship Selection Committee, c/o the Silvermine Tavern, 194 Perry Avenue, Norwalk, CT 06850, **NO LATER THAN Saturday, April 14, 2006**. Allow yourself plenty of time to gather all the required documents.

All eligible applicants will be interviewed in May by the SCA Scholarship Selection Committee. Scholarships will be awarded in June. Scholarships are awarded on the basis of academic achievement, financial need, community service, extracurricular activities, and career goals. You can obtain an application from the office of your school's guidance counselor, principal, or college advisor. You can also call Sue Palinkos at 847-8354 or visit our website ([www.silverminenews.com](http://www.silverminenews.com)) for an application.

## Visit the SCA Website

Visit us at the new Silvermine Community Association web site. Our address is: [www.silverminenews.com](http://www.silverminenews.com)

Use the SCA web site to learn about:

- The latest word on the status of the Perry Avenue bridge
- Upcoming events in Silvermine (the Pancake Breakfast, History Dinners, Meet & Mingle Cocktail Parties, Trash Walks, and more)
- Learn about Silvermine's history
- Read back issues of the Silvermine News
- Learn about the Silvermine Community Association
- See a map of Silvermine
- Join the Silvermine Community Association

## Are You a Member?

To find out if you are a member, check your mailing label.

2007

John and Sally Smith  
5336 Silvermine Road  
New Canaan, CT 06840

Mailing label displays the year through which you have paid dues.

# March 25th Spring Clean Up

Spring may seem a long way away, but it is just around the corner. And in Silvermine that means it's time for our 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Clean Up, (aka Trash Walk).

The Silvermine Community Association Spring Clean Up will take place on Sunday, March 25<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Volunteers should meet in the Silvermine School parking lot on Perry Avenue, Norwalk, and provide whatever time they can to help beautify the Silvermine area. It is suggested that participants bring gardening or latex gloves and, if possible, a trash bag or two.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

- 2/26** Artists-in-Residence Art Show Opens
- 3/2** Artists-in-Residence Art Show, Opening Reception
- 3/7** Open Monthly Board Meeting
- 3/18** Artists-in-Residence Show Closes
- 3/25** Spring Clean Up
- 3/31** Pancake Breakfast
- 3/31** Bread of Life Drive (at Pancake Breakfast)
- 4/11** Open Monthly Board Meeting
- 4/14** Scholarship Applications Due
- 4/??** Silvermine History Dinner (date to be set)
- 5/2** Open Monthly Board Meeting

### Monthly Board Meetings

7:30 p.m., first Wednesday of month. At Silvermine Tavern. Open to all. Thanks to proprietor Frank Whitman, coffee and cookies are often provided.



**Silvermine Community Association Membership**  
**January 1 through December 31, 2007**



**Send this form and your membership dues to:**

The Silvermine Community Association  
 c/o The Silvermine Tavern  
 194 Perry Ave.  
 Norwalk, CT 06850

2007 Membership Dues per family \$ 25.00  
 Scholarship Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Antique Fire Truck Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 General Contribution \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
**Total enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Town: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, I'd like to receive the Newsletter via e-mail.  
 No, I'd rather receive the Newsletter via regular mail.

\*\*This information is not shared with any other organization.\*\*

Please contact me, I'd like to join the Board.

Please contact me, I'd like to work with this committee:

- Membership Drive  Fundraisers
- Newsletter  Social Events
- Pancake Breakfast  Beautification Program
- Website  History of Silvermine
- Road Race  Publicity
- Please contact me, I'd like to discuss \_\_\_\_\_

For membership matters, contact **Pat Duncan**, [PDuncan190@aol.com](mailto:PDuncan190@aol.com) (801-5230), **Jeff Turner**, [turnernews@aol.com](mailto:turnernews@aol.com) (847-6400), or

**Executive Board**

**Co-Presidents:**

Sue Cruikshank, David McMahon

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Jeff Turner

**Secretary:**

Dave Muessel

**Treasurer:**

Sue Palinkos

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David Marsh and Barbara Carr  
 Frank and Lee DeMilo  
 Lee and Mona Levey  
 Mona Mulvey  
 Mark and Linda Ryan

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 Bruce and Susan Cruikshank  
 Richard and Cathy Hartner  
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 Robert and Catherine Avery Jr

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 Norma Lewis and Diane Bridge  
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 Larsen Paul & Molly  
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*Continued on page 7*



Silvermine News  
Silvermine Community Association  
c/o The Silvermine Tavern  
194 Perry Ave.  
Norwalk, CT 06850

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Join the  
**Silvermine  
Community  
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**today!**

## 2007 Members

Continued from page 7

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Membership lists as of 1/30/07