



Author Amor Towles



The Darien
Community
Association

*Enriching our community
in a welcoming, historic
setting for lifelong learning,
philanthropy, and enjoyment.*

Book Talk and Signing

Join us to hear *The New York Times* bestselling author Amor Towles speak at the Darien Community Association about his latest novel, *A Gentleman in Moscow*.

Winning the hearts of critics and readers alike, Amor Towles' "brilliantly realized... [and] sharply stylish" (*The Boston Globe*) debut novel, *Rules of Civility*, was one of 2011's biggest breakout literary bestsellers. In *A Gentleman In Moscow*, his highly anticipated second novel about a thirty-year-old Russian aristocrat who is sentenced to house arrest inside the luxurious Hotel Metropol, Towles further establishes his reputation as one of contemporary literature's most exciting and singular writers.

Wednesday, October 4th

7:30pm

DCA members \$25 / public \$35 (includes a glass of wine)

Prepayment is required for this General Programs event, which is sponsored in conjunction with Barrett Bookstore, and may be made online through dariendca.org or by contacting the DCA at info@dariendca.org or 203-655-9050 ext. 10.

Message to members

From the president

I hope you've enjoyed a relaxing summer. As you can see from this month's newsletter, we have another exciting year of programming in store.

We completed our strategic plan, and appreciate the input from more than 300 people including members, donors, board, staff, local partners and community leaders. As part of the implementation, we will be strengthening our marketing with a new website this fall, and continuing to make house and grounds improvements and building community partnerships/developing programs to attract a broader array of the community. Please see our website, dariendca.org, for a summary of all the strategic plan goals. I had the opportunity to participate as a member of the strategic planning team, and I'm grateful for the thoughtful contributions of fellow members Amy Bell, Chris Filmer, Lisa Joyce, Kate Larson, Michele Litt, Liz Moley, Laura Racanelli and Deb Suckow.

Over the summer, and timed between catered event rentals, we completed a number of necessary maintenance projects, such as hardwood floor screening and coating, and painting that included the house exterior, fire escape, and interior/exterior of the greenhouse building. Your generous support of the DCA - through membership, contributions, program participation, house rentals, and donations or purchases at the Thrift Shop - help make these improvements possible.

If you haven't already, don't forget to renew your DCA membership, so you can continue to receive reduced activity fees and this monthly newsletter delivered to your home. You can do this directly from our website at dariendca.org, or by contacting the DCA office.

See you at the DCA!

Ulla Kremer

If you haven't already, don't forget to renew your DCA membership, so you can continue to receive reduced activity fees and this monthly newsletter delivered to your home.

Women's Luncheons



“Hollywood: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow” featuring Susan Granger, movie critic and author of *150 Timeless Movies*

For the past century, Hollywood has shaped our dreams and aspirations, and given us our heroes. Entertainment is America's biggest export. Yet the kind of disruption that hit music, publishing and other industries is already reshaping the entertainment business, heralding the Golden Age of Distribution. Susan Granger, whose reviews and commentaries are published worldwide, will discuss what's in store, and her book.

Men are welcome, too! Luncheon will be provided by Michael Joseph's Catering.

**Tuesday, October 3rd
12:15pm - 2:00pm**

DCA members \$20 / public \$25

Prepayment required by noon on Monday, October 2nd.

For a complete list of all upcoming DCA Women's Luncheons see bottom of page 3.

Activities & Programs



2017 Art Lecture Series - Winslow Homer: Four Perspectives

For the first time the Art Lecture Series will focus on one artist, Winslow Homer, who is widely recognized as one of, if not the most important American artist. Known for his marine paintings, he is also considered to be one of the most acute observers of the human condition, addressing both the personal and political.

Thursdays: October 5, 12, 19 and 26
11:00am lecture, luncheon to follow

Series admission with lunch: DCA members \$175/ public \$195
Single lecture admission and lunch: DCA members \$50 / public \$55
Single lecture-only admission: DCA members \$20 / public \$25
Prepayment is required for all luncheon reservations by noon on the previous Friday.

Full details of lectures are available in the enclosed brochure, or at dariendca.org.

Images: Winslow Homer, *Flower Garden and Bungalow* (left) & Winslow Homer, *The Gulf Stream* (right)

New Bridge Director and Open Game Come to the DCA!

The DCA is excited to welcome Tom Hunter of Come Play Bridge as our new duplicate bridge director. Our Monday game will now be a \$13 open game, without a DCA membership requirement, to help players obtain more master points. Tom will be using hands from The Common Game, so hand records will be available. Games will be stratified, and Tom will also be available both before and after the game for questions and discussion.

Mondays, weekly from September 11th
12:30pm
Drop-in play, \$13



Bridge Classes: Intro to 2 Over 1 and Bridge 5

All of our bridge classes follow the same format. Each class begins with an oral lesson followed by play of the hand. Students should plan on bringing a three ring binder to the first class, as all classes are taught via handouts. Minimum/maximum enrollment applies.

Intro to 2 Over 1:

In this class, instructor Joan Bergen (photo top right) will focus on the 2/1 bidding system, with an emphasis on play of the hand. Prior to the first class, participants must purchase the book: *2 over 1 Game Force* by Audrey Grant and Eric Rodwell.

Seven Tuesdays: September 12, 19, 26 and October 3, 10, 24, 31
9:30am - 11:30am

DCA members \$175/ public \$210

Prepayment is required by noon on Friday, September 8th.

Bridge 5:

Continuing Advanced Beginner Bridge: instructor Meredith Dunne (photo top left) will cover topics including take out doubles, basic bidding review and smart declarer play.

Six Tuesdays: September 26 and October 3, 10, 17, 24, 31
9:00am - 11:00am

DCA members \$150 / public \$170

Prepayment is required by noon on Friday, September 22nd.

2017-2018 Women's Luncheons Calendar - Tuesdays at 12:15pm

October 3 - "Hollywood: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow" featuring Susan Granger, movie critic and author of *150 Timeless Movies*

November 7 - "Exclusive Culinary Tours of Italy and Spain" featuring Cindy Palmer Dean

December 5 - "Mark Twain in Connecticut" presented by the Director of Education of The Mark Twain House and Museum

January 9 - Canyon Ranch nutritionist discussing "Nutrients for Sleep" and "Nutraceuticals for Better Brain Memory"

February 6 - "What's For Dinner?" - local services and easy menus presented by a panel

March 6 - "Our Stone Walls: The Great, The Good and The Truly Awful" featuring Sylvia Reiss

April 3 - Fashion Show by "Everything Is Rosey" - resort wear, spring and summer styles

May 1 - Krista Fox on "The Power of Home"...what your home says about you and what you can do!

June 5 - "Long Island Sound: How Much Do You Know?" featuring Dick Woods

Activities & Programs - continued



Mom's Morning In

Bring your toddlers / preschool-age children for some active entertainment.

The Bossy Frog

Certified music therapist and New York State licensed creative arts therapist Jeffrey Friedberg designed his playful songs to inspire children to learn as they learn best - through experiential activities and movement. Your little ones will certainly be hopping!

Friday, September 22nd
10:00am

\$10 per child.
Reservations are not required.



Flower Arranging Workshop: Flower Power

Sunflowers are great in arrangements as they are big, bright and bold....and they mix so well with other fall colors! The workshop will be led by Diane Schlinkert and Allie Callan, both Darien residents and experienced floral designers from the New York Botanical Garden certificate program. Materials will be provided; please bring your own hand clippers if you have them.

Wednesday, September 13th
1:00pm - 2:00pm

DCA members \$40 / public \$45
Prepayment is required by noon on Monday, September 11th. Maximum enrollment is 20.



Page Turners Book Group

This month's selection is *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles, *The New York Times* bestseller (see cover).

In *A Gentleman In Moscow*, his highly anticipated second novel about a thirty-year-old Russian aristocrat who is sentenced to house arrest inside the luxurious Hotel Metropol, Towles further establishes his reputation as one of contemporary literature's most exciting and singular writers.

Monday, September 11th
12:30pm

All DCA members are welcome.

Mah Jongg Classes - Four options with Donna Holt this fall

Four Week Beginner Mah Jongg:

Fall is the perfect time to learn something new, and Mah Jongg is the perfect game: social, stimulating and requiring both skill and luck. Longtime Darien resident Donna Holt will teach players the basics of American Mah Jongg, from understanding the tiles and card, to selecting and strengthening a winning hand. Rules and strategies of play and game etiquette will be covered. Please bring the 2017 NMJL card to class. To order: nationalmahjonggleague.org or amazon.com. No prior experience needed.

Two Sessions: Four Thursdays or Four Tuesdays - sign up for one

Session 1: Thursdays, September 7, 14, 21, 28

9:30am - 12:00pm

Session 2: Tuesdays, October 3, 10, 17, 24

12:30pm - 3:00pm

DCA Members \$95 / public \$105 for each session

Prepayment is required by noon on Tuesday, September 5th for Session 1 and by noon on Friday, September 29th for Session 2

Two Week Guided Mah Jongg Play:

This mini session of Guided Play is a great way to ease back into Mah Jongg after a long summer. Instructor Donna Holt will oversee play and help with all aspects of the game of American Mah Jongg, from choosing your hand, to guiding the group through any rules or etiquette questions that arise. Please bring your 2017 card to each class. PLEASE NOTE: Players should already be familiar with the rules of play and the NMJL card.

Wednesdays, September 13, 20

9:30am - 12:00pm

DCA members \$35 / public \$40

Prepayment is required by noon on Monday, September 11th

Four Week Guided Mah Jongg Play:

Get back into the groove of weekly Mah Jongg in this session of Guided Play. Instructor Donna Holt will oversee play and help with all aspects of the game of American Mah Jongg, from choosing your hand, to guiding the group through any rules or etiquette questions that arise. Please bring your 2017 card to each class. PLEASE NOTE: Players should already be familiar with the rules of play and the NMJL card.

Two Sessions: Four Wednesdays - sign up for one

Session 1: Wednesdays, October 4, 11, 18, 25

Session 2: Wednesdays, November 1, 8, 15, 29 (no class November 22)

9:30am - 12:00pm

DCA members \$70 / public \$80

Prepayment is required by noon on Monday, October 2nd for Session 1 and by noon on Monday, October 30th for Session 2

Minimum enrollment applies for all classes. Maximum enrollment is 12 (except for Beginner, which is eight).

Calendar of Events

September 2017

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
				1
4 Labor Day The DCA is closed	5	6 10:00 Darien Men's Association meeting	7 9:30 Beginner Mah Jongg	8
11 12:30 Duplicate Bridge 12:30 Page Turners: <i>A Gentleman in Moscow</i>	12 9:30 Bridge Intro to 2 to 1 class	13 9:30 Guided Mah Jongg Play 10:00 Darien Men's Association meeting 1:00 Flower Arranging Workshop: Flower Power	14 9:30 Beginner Mah Jongg	15
18 12:30 Duplicate Bridge	19 8:30 DCA Board meeting 9:30 Bridge Intro to 2 to 1 class	20 9:30 Guided Mah Jongg Play 10:00 Darien Men's Association meeting	21 9:30 Beginner Mah Jongg	22 10:00 Mom's Morning In presents "The Bossy Frog"
25 12:30 Duplicate Bridge	26 9:00 Bridge 5 9:30 Bridge Intro to 2 to 1 class	27 10:00 Darien Men's Association meeting	28 9:30 Beginner Mah Jongg	29

Upcoming Events

- October 3, 12:15pm Women's Luncheons: "Hollywood: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow" featuring Susan Granger, movie critic and author of *150 Timeless Movies*
- October 3, 12:30pm Beginner Mah Jongg classes begin with Donna Holt
- October 4, 9:30am Guided Mah Jongg Play begins with Donna Holt
- October 4, 7:30pm Book Talk and Signing with Author Amor Towles
- October 5, 11:00am Art Lecture Series - "Painting for Money: Winslow Homer as Entrepreneur"
- October 12, 11:00am Art Lecture Series - "Man and Nature, Men and Women in the Addison's Homer Paintings"
- October 16, 12:30pm Page Turners discuss *The Vintner's Daughter* by Kristen Harnisch
- October 17, 9:00am Fall Gardening Workshop
- October 19, 11:00am Art Lecture Series - "Homer's Humor: or, The Obtuse Bard Hiding His Light under a Bushel"
- October 25, 8:30am Theater Bus goes to see *Hello Dolly*
- October 26, 9:30am Financial Workshop: Health, Wealth and a Confident Retirement
- October 26, 11:00am Art Lecture Series - "Winslow Homer in the Caribbean"
- October 27, 10:00am Mom's Morning In Annual Halloween Parade with Amazing Andy

Find out more

DCA Office Hours

9:00am - 3:00pm Monday - Thursday
9:00am - 12:00pm Fridays

House Rentals

For information or a tour of the estate, for your catered event, please contact:

Laura Boulton
Catered Events Coordinator
events@dariendca.org
203-655-9050 extension 12

For room rentals only, contact:
Marilyn DeMaio
Office Manager
info@dariendca.org
203-655-9050 extension 10

Theater Bus

Subscriptions are sold out, but please contact the DCA office if you would like to be added to the waitlist and/or sub list.

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