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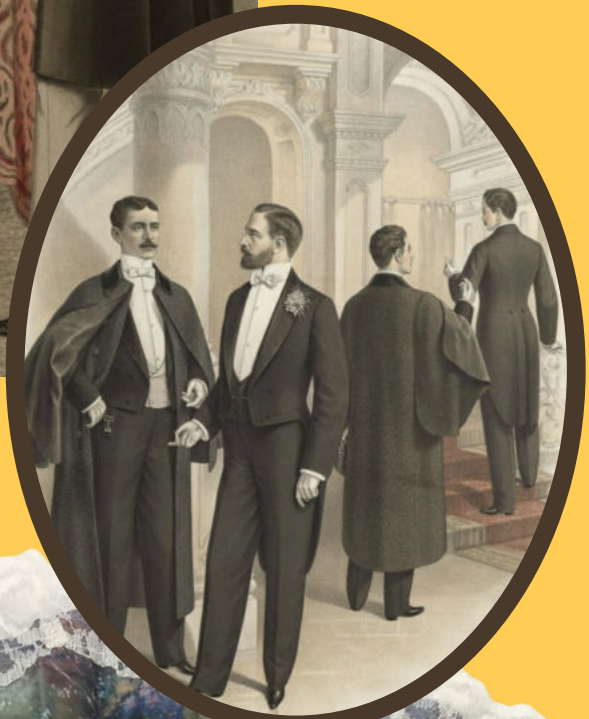
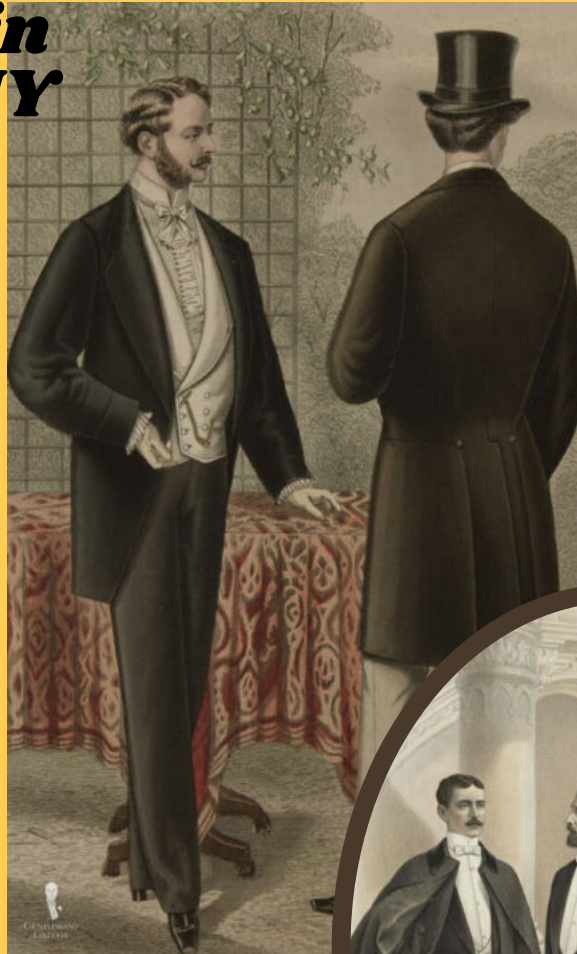
**The
Autumn
Ball at
Tuxedo
Club
1886**



Designed by
Tuxedo Park
Magazine

The Tuxedo attire is born in Tuxedo Park NY

A resident of Tuxedo Park, James Brown Potter vacationed in England in the summer of 1886. Potter and his wife, Cora were introduced to the Prince of Wales at a court ball in London (who later became King Edward VII), Potter asked the Prince for advice on formal dress. The Prince sent Potter to his own Saville Row tailor, Henry Poole & Co. Potter was fitted with a short black jacket and black tie that was unlike the formal tails with white tie that was worn in the United States for formal occasions. He wore it to the Tuxedo Ball when he returned from England.



"Early Tuxedo Park" by a butler's son in his later years

1886..Enter the ballrooms, sit on the verandas, meet the men who moved Wall Street, then, walk with us through what was once one of the most famous clubs in America. This story will bring you there.

Many years ago not far away from the city of New York on a gloomy, rainy September day, two men traveled by train to a small town about an hour from the hustle and bustle of Manhattan. They later climbed through the rough and tumbled hills near that town to explore a location for a hunting and fishing club. One of the men, Mr. Pierre Lorillard, was the heir to a wealthy inheritance, and had purchased the land from his siblings who had inherited it years prior. The other man was hired by Mr. Lorillard to help design and build what Mr. Lorillard envisioned for this land, his name was Bruce Price.

Upon returning to the city, in the following months, Mr. Lorillard hired 1800 men to build a community on this rough & tumbled property in upstate New York. Not many of these men had experience, so they had to work with the primitive tools then available; these men were of several different nationalities and were housed in small dwellings near the property being developed. The small muddy roads near the worker's huts were named after streets in Manhattan, their cafeteria hut being named Delmonico's, after the very famous restaurant in New York City, which later had a significant impact on the jacket named, "The Tuxedo".

It only took these very hard working men 8 months to build 30 miles of roads, stores stables, a gatehouse, the first complete sewer system in the country, a parkland equipped with "cottages" as they were referred to then, that were not really cottages but twenty two mansions, a hunting & fishing reserve, and a huge clubhouse. Then, there was the ballroom, a beautiful, large building that was to become the most famous ballroom in America.

The new lawns glistened like diamonds and were complimented further by the colorful foliage of the surrounding pine forests. In the middle of this enclave, a lake was situated, sparkling brilliantly beneath the clear blue sky. My father had been hired as head butler to an enormously wealthy family, on the largest estate of them all, Mr. Lorillard's estate.

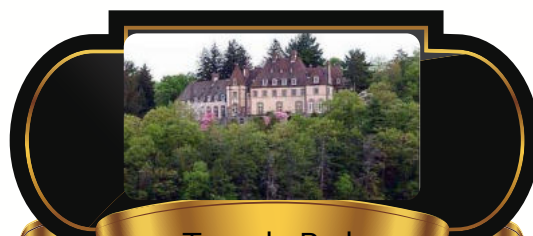
I was twelve and had plenty of time to romp through the forests and paths that led around the huge lake. We were from Manhattan, and all of this freedom was so new to me, I liked it. Although I did become lonely for friends my age, that soon changed when Higgins moved into the carriage house as the new chauffeur. He had a son my age named Tom, and together we witnessed a fairytale of wealth and opulence that graced the rough & tumbled hills of the Ramapo Mountains.

We each had a pony housed at the local stables, Mr. Lorillard had his private extensive stables on the estate where my parents and I lived, but they were for very fine horses, one of which was named Saxon who won the Belmont stakes in 1874. Mr. Lorillard had recently sold his private estate in New port Rhode Island to Mr. Cornelius Vanderbilt in order to concentrate on building Tuxedo Park.

Tom and I rode our ponies nearly every day that summer. We witnessed grand mansions with gargoyles lining the rooftops, windows that seemed to smile with their clean faces as they watched wooden mallets cracking croquet balls on soft summer afternoons. On the broad, expansive lawns, turrets with feudal signature designs cascaded through courtyards, where dozens of push mowers whirred through the leaves as they fell.

The forest seemed to hug the countryside that was dimpled with magnificent shade trees and enormous pines that seemed to reach up and touch the pristine blue sky. With almost soundless steps, our ponies crossed a moss-lined path, and the expanse of woods opened to the large estate where I lived. The wide lawn introduced a perfect manicure to the stately mansion. Flowerbeds blossomed with colorful arms, and buds moved to the rhythm of the silent breeze like ribbons gracefully amusing their audience. The atmosphere had a childlike euphoria about it.

Lace and family linen draped over clotheslines in the walled drying yards, concealed out of sight. The scent of lavender laundry drifted beyond the walls and mingled with the fragrant wisteria violet flowers that clung to the red Harvard style bricks. Housemaids with starched white aprons bustled around the terraces carrying sparkling crystal glasses on silver trays. I remember the silver being so polished that it caught the reflection of the sun with a blinding veil, pushing the reflection like a carousel, across the lawn.



Tuxedo Park

The most interesting building to us was the club. I was told we were not supposed to trespass, but Tom and I soon made friends with one of the young workers who was employed there for the summer. His name was David, and although he was the son of one of the wealthiest families in the park, he still had to work part time. His father told him that he would learn more from the club members about business than any summer classes at Harvard.

We rode over there any chance we could, tie our ponies near the tennis courts and sneak in through one of the back doors. David always had the best stories for us about the members. The club had just opened and was soon to be launched officially with what they called an "Autumn Ball". Now, that did not sound interesting to us because we were only twelve, but David being seventeen, told us it was one of the most important events in the entire north east.

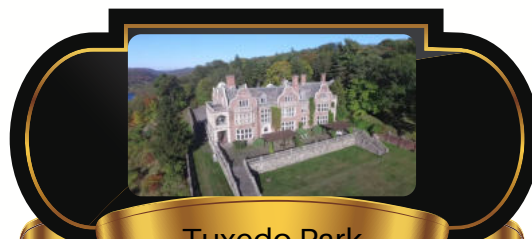
On his break, David would take us on tours and tell us of the newest members. He spoke with excitement and pride when he mentioned their names. "Everyone who has anything to do with Wall Street is a member here", he would boast.

Having heard much about Wall Street, and the men who actually moved it, we were impressed of how many of those men were Tuxedo Club members. There were a few railroad barons, a few counts, one of the largest bankers in the country, a prince, a few heirs to oil fortunes, an extremely wealthy real estate speculator, and even a man who knew the king and queen of England, and had been a guest at Sandringham, and of course, Mr. Lorillard, who eventually became a relative of Barron Revelstoke and the heir apparent to the earldom of Oxford and Asquith.

From cottages to castles, within Tuxedo Park, and its neighboring estates, these men lived and dined and worked with the brilliance of wisdom always on their side and the financial wherewithal to navigate any business with unyielding tenacity.

The mahogany paneled walls in the club library gleamed with the wood polish of its time in 1886. Portraits hung in heavy, gilded frames, that watched the room from their pedestaled positions. A large portrait of Pierre Lorillard hung proudly, positioned in its fine place of dignity above the grand fireplace. The scent of blackberry pipe tobacco and cigars hung in the air from the night before, when members passed the time together dining and sharing important events over their brandy of choice, and, Goldsmith Silver & Co. fine Boston cigars, newly launched that year.

Cont next pg



Tuxedo Park



We strolled into one of the sitting rooms and David remarked that Mr. J.P.Morgan was one of the new members. Newspapers back in 1886, reported his being strikingly different than other financial and industrial princes of his day. His impact on the American economy was monumental, although, many of the club members equaled and at times excelled Mr. Morgan's achievements and influence.

David told us of the many preparations underway for the first Autumn Ball to be held in October that year. I was excited, although I knew Tom and I could not attend, since we were not even close to being members nor related to anyone who was, we would certainly hear about it, and the New York Times would have an entire section about it. The reporters from the New York Times were always snooping around the park, covering house parties, weddings, and gossip, yes, there was much gossip in those days and the papers never missed a chance to elaborate on it, it sold newspapers.

David was always kind to us, although he was older and from a totally different background. He always had one of the maids from the club treat us to great tea sandwiches, and it was this very afternoon while enjoying the Lobster sandwiches, that we learned of Mr. James Brown Potter and his beautiful wife, Cora.

Residents of Tuxedo Park, Mr. James Brown Potter vacationed in England that summer of 1886. Mr. Potter and his wife, Cora, were introduced to the Prince of Wales at a court ball in London. The prince later became King Edward VII.

Mr. Potter asked the Prince for advice on formal dress. The Prince sent Mr. Potter to his own Savile Row tailor; Henry Poole & Co. Mr. Potter was fitted with a short black jacket and black tie that was unlike the formal tails with white tie that was worn in the United States for formal occasions at that time.

The Potters liked the suit so well, Mr. Potter decided that when they returned to Tuxedo, he was going to wear it to the Tuxedo Ball that October. David mentioned he heard through the grapevine that Mr. Potter's new suit was to be all the rage at the Tuxedo Club.

The summer came to an end and Tom and I attended a small school in the village of Tuxedo on the out skirts of the park. We made new friends, but we were both eager to return to the park each day where the autumn came alive. We rode our ponies around the lake and watched as nature held the park in brilliant colors. Riding paths were being carved out of the landscape, eventually to become miles of horseback riding trails that wound through the rich forestland.



The horseshows eventually became very popular and the amazing equestrian skills displayed, were unequally matched in the state of New York. Famous New York tailors would bring manikins dressed in the latest riding habit fashions for Tuxedo Park residents to view the selections for their wardrobes. The showground and grandstand were always artistically decorated for the famous horseshows.

One October afternoon, David greeted us on his horse with some of his friends. He had returned from Harvard for the long weekend. The park was exciting; every home was being turned up side down in preparations for guests' arrivals. Trains were at the Tuxedo station in town, and were met by coaches and wagons painted brightly in the club colors of yellow and green. This was not only the autumn ball weekend, but also the official opening of the New York social season and would be covered by every society newspaper.

Under the stares of the country folk who had gathered from miles around, the guests began their ascent to the Clubhouse. Beds of flowers lined the way, and every now and then gamekeepers adorned in green and yellow, wearing Tyrolese hats, emerged self-consciously from the forest.

Through the wide stone gates and crisp October chill, carriages with emblemed doors approached the entrance proud. Footmen titled hats and heads toward men in suits and women in gowns with furs cascading across their faces. The trees along the winding road seemed to bow their tops as the carriages passed below them, as the group was led toward wide French doors and chandeliers that illuminated Tuxedo Park.

My father and every employee in the park were enormously busy; Tom and I were able to help in the kitchen of the club so we could get a glimpse of this very important occasion. Mr. Lorillard had a son named Griswold, known to his close friends as Grizzly. We used to see him on the estate once in a while. He was twenty two and loved two things...clothes and practical jokes. It was said he had two dress coats that were made by his father's tailor in London. His older brother was one of the governors of the Tuxedo Club.

Cont next page

Pierre
Lorillard
with his
prized
hunting
dog in
Tuxedo
Park



As the glamorous social event began, this formal ball was the perfect occasion for young Grizzy to introduce a style totally unique to society. According to an 1886 column in the "Journal":

"Young Griswold Lorillard appeared at the ball in a tailless dress coat and waistcoat of scarlet satin, looking for all the world like a royal footman. There were several other of these abbreviated coats worn by his friends, to the shock of the onlookers"

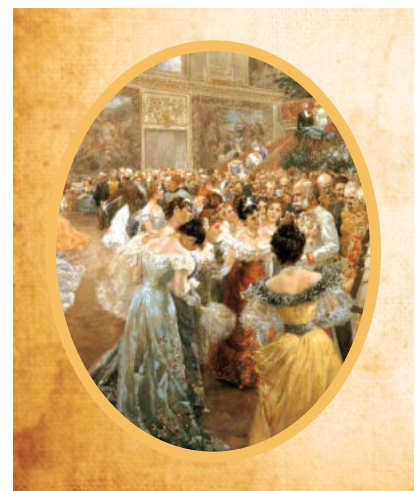
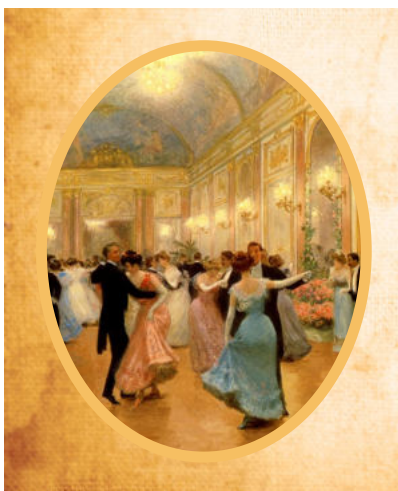
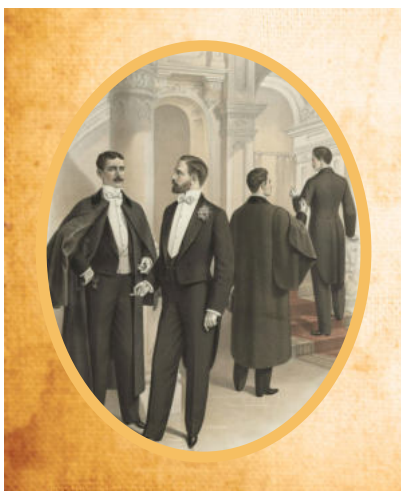
As a lark and a practical joke, he cut off the tails of one of the coats that his father had made for him in London. Everyone at the ball took notice with many different reactions, some thought he was taking a joke too far, some thought he was being unfair shocking his parents at the most important social event of the season, some thought it was humorous, and some thought it the grandest idea ever, and, if an important man such as a Lorillard could pull that statement off, why shouldn't they do the same.

Many of the club members thought it a great change in fashion, and later, had their own tailors create a similar look such as "Grizzy" wore to the ball.

Mr. And Mrs. Potter, also in attendance that evening, were having many friends remarking on Mr. Potter's newly designed dress jacket that was fashioned for him by the Prince of Whales. Many thinking such a change in fashion would be exhilarating.

So, there were two new fashion statements made that same evening, perhaps both influencing the new look, but influence it certainly did, because following the ball, many men had the new fashion created for them by their tailors. Many wore them to Delmonico's in Manhattan, where they received enormous notice by the social set who dined there as well.

Whispers crowded the room when Tuxedo residents entered the famous restaurant. Stares followed the men as they walked into the dining room parading their "new fashion". Many customers were heard to say, "That is the new fashion they are wearing up in Tuxedo this year".



And while they raised a few eyebrows from the conservative, their choice was widely admired, as they were dapper men of status. Shortly thereafter, gentlemen wearing tuxedos were admitted into the Dress Circle of New York's Metropolitan Opera, thus certifying a fleeting trend into an established form of men's formal dress.

Tuxedo Park at that time, led the social season, social style of manners, etiquette, the newly published, Social Register, and the finest fashion statements, blanketing the social world in 1886. The Jacket was therefore named "The Tuxedo", after the highest social level achievable in New York, New Port, and most of America. Today it influences the world wide, and still carries the air of importance and pride exuded from the first social group that wore it to Delmonico's that first season.

Looking back so many years ago, it is with a feeling of awe, having known the men who influenced its birth, and it is with a feeling of pride to have witnessed the once rough and tumbled area in the Ramapo Mountains that became a jewel in its wilderness, the magical place called ...Tuxedo Park.

Special note: Although this narrative was influenced by a butler's son many, many years ago, Tuxedo Park Magazine enhanced its research and wish to thank the following, some unfortunately, are no longer with us, although we salute their respected memory.:

References: Tuxedo Park Historian: Historical Society, Mr. Christian Sonne: Many archival notes & artifacts.

Tuxedo Park Library: Research department.

Tuxedo Park Library: Reference room archives

Tuxedo Park Club

Tuxedo Park pamphlet of members, from 1885

Mr. Alexander Salm: kind use of Archival books, maps, notes, journals, diaries, photos, and most of all, memories.

New York Tribune 1885, 1886

New York Times 1885, 1886

New York Journal 1885, 1886

Town Topics: Originally known as "The American Queen", editor, Louis Keller who was the founder of the "Social Register"

The Social Register (SR) of 1886, editor Louis Keller



Croquet On Country Lawns

***Tuxedo Park Autumn Ball: October 1900
Debutants were gifted Croquet sets...***

New York Times

...."The large, circular ballroom was decorated with autumn leaves and handsome favors. There were cedars decked with carefully selected tinted oak and maple leaves. In an arbor and on a stage opposite, two orchestras played alternately. The ladies were given gifts: Croquet mallets, fans and garlands of flowers. The men were given croquet balls, automobile glasses, silk scarves and boutonnieres.

All of the early evening trains arriving from NYC brought guests and a steady stream of automobiles with guests entered through the park gates all afternoon. The festivities carried on all evening well into the morning. At 1:00 AM a large dinner was served at the clubhouse. Some of the guests among the many in attendance were, Mrs. M. Collier, Mrs. Amory Carhart, H. Tiffany, Mr. And Mrs. Richard Mortimer, Mr. And Mrs. Pierre Lorillard, H. W. Poor Mr. And Mrs. Grenville Kane, Mr. And Mrs. Julliard, Miss D. Roosevelt, Mr. And Mrs. Edward Harriman, Mr. And Mrs. Griswold, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hyde...The New York Times..."



In the 1800's, croquet was most popular among women, it was a new experience for them to be able to play a game outdoors in the company of men, although early games of croquet were carefully chaperoned. Tight croquet, which was the practice of putting a foot on the ball and sending the opponent's ball far away into the bushes, allowed the young men to go into the bushes with the young women to search for the ball. Given the nature of Victorian courting codes, it is not surprising that young people, particularly women, relished the game, which gave them the opportunity to socialize out of earshot of chaperons.

The game's popularity grew in the 1880's when garden parties began to be called croquet parties. Gracing the sprawling lawns of Tuxedo Park and New Port Rhode Island in the summertime and autumn, croquet matches governed parties, picnics, social visits, and healthy outing exercise while promoting interaction with one's guests. Tea held a special decorum when served during games of croquet. Special culinary cuisine served with champagne became popular as a common theme, as did table settings and special stylish fashions worn for the games. Tuxedo Park held croquet in such high esteem; Mallets and balls were gifted to all debutantes at their "coming out" events at the club.



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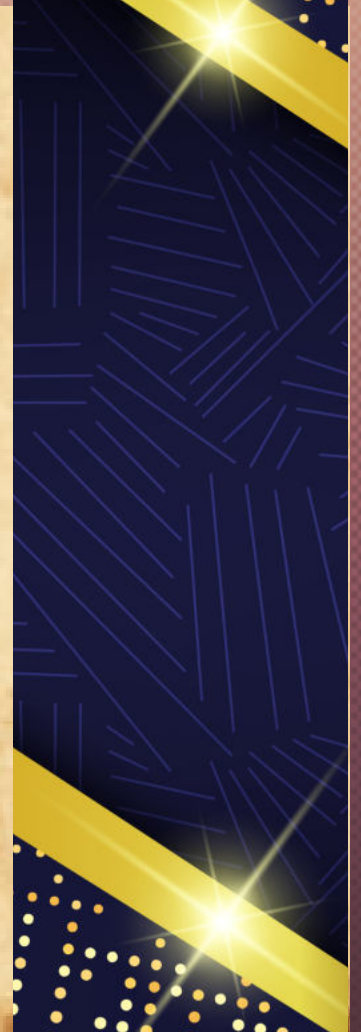
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College Counseling Done Right



The Class of 2022 has barely had time to text their parents to ask how to de-pink that load of whites they accidentally washed with a red sock, but in the Upper School College Counseling office, the college application process for the Class of 2023 is already in full swing.

Submitting their applications this fall is just the culmination of a process that started when these seniors were in the 9th grade. It's in that first year of high school that students are encouraged to think strategically about their academic schedule and pursue an ambitious academic schedule of Honors, AP and College Prep classes that will be both challenging and fulfilling to them.

Students are also encouraged to join teams, clubs or other extracurricular activities that both feed their passions and help them build their resumes. The metrics by which college admissions offices are evaluating students are changing, and colleges and universities are looking beyond test scores to predict student success, but as Karen Ferretti, Director of College Counseling at SRDS says, "Nothing replaces the transcript. Success in the classroom is critical."

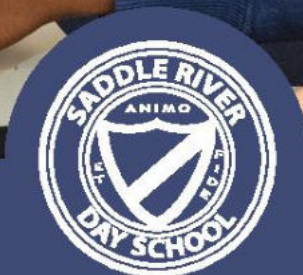
10th graders at SRDS attend a weekly college workshop where they research colleges and universities of interest, build relationships with admissions representatives, learn to self-advocate, but most importantly, they do a lot of thinking about who they are and what they want their lives to look like 2, 5, 10 years out of high school.



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Junior year is when things really start getting real. In addition to their classwork and extracurricular activities, most SRDS juniors are also preparing for their SATs and ACTs and planning visits to the schools, or with representatives from the schools that remain on their target list. Juniors get a jump on the application process by attending the College Counseling Workshops that meets once per week. Students are taught how to research colleges, hold mock interviews with SRDS alums and begin their college essays. Individual meetings with the College Office are also encouraged to discuss the shaping of the college list, current testing scores, summer plans and recommendation letters.

Seniors submit applications beginning with their Early Decision (ED - these applications are binding) and Early Action (EA - these applications are non-binding) applications, followed by their regular admission applications. And then...they wait. Anxiously.

Luckily for us, SRDS students in the class of 2022 had fantastic college choices including Georgetown, Penn, Brown, University of Virginia, Wesleyan, Middlebury and NYU. So that's where we are as we enter this school year. 50 seniors putting the finishing touches on their applications, making sure their teacher recommendations are in order, proofreading that essay one last time, and then crossing their fingers, closing their eyes, and pushing "Send" on their applications. We wish each of these students (and their parents) the best of luck! And we look forward to starting the process all over again with the next superlative group of SRDS students.



The Men Who Moved Wall Street During The Gilded Age From...Tuxedo Park

Part 1

Written & researched by Tuxedo Park Magazine

Anchored by Wall Street, New York City has been called both, the most economically powerful city and the leading financial center, being home to the world's two largest stock exchanges by total market capitalization, the New York Stock Exchange and NASDAQ.

Captains of finance and industry in the gilded age were legendary icons enabling this country to become strong and independent. American industrialists and philanthropists revolutionized industry and defined the structure of monetary gain. Many were deeply involved in developing and financing railroad empires by reorganizations and consolidations, building a strong vision of an integrated transportation system.

Beginning in the 1870s, thanks to a modern corporate form of ownership, a new merger movement, and a dominant form of competitive, proprietary capitalism, industrialists like John D. Rockefeller, James Pierpont Morgan, Andrew Carnegie, and Cornelius Vanderbilt rose to unprecedented heights of prosperity and power. More and more, wealth was concentrated in the hands of a few.

Not all of the changes were positive. During the Gilded Age, America, and the world, experienced a series of periodic economic crises, including a devastating Wall Street crash that inaugurated the Panic of 1873. Recurrent cycles of boom and collapse brought dramatically different consequences for those at the top and bottom rungs of the economy. Developing an awe of such magnitude, these men of power, these men of economic strength, possessed the stability of perseverance and vision.

They grasped multitudes of opportunities to swing the pendulum of control in their direction, and through this, enabled the monetary system of America to lean in their direction, thus, obtaining methods for expansion, momentum, and achievement of an empire so vast, it moved Wall Street, and the world.

Dow Jones, Barrons, Wall Street Journal, S&P 500, J.P.Morgan financial institutions, the largest insurance companies in the world and the railroad reorganization methodology, all began with these men with tenacious business dispositions and the wherewithal to connect the dots between industry, human power, and money.



They walked through the finest clubs in New York where money was aged, and new money balanced on that noble money, became ripe. The blue bloods of iconic industry, their gilded empires appear like legendary fairytales of capital worth, sending echoes of success down the corridors of Wall Street.

The old clubs which still exist, such as the Tuxedo Club, the Union Club, and the old Knickerbocker Club, where once these men shared visions of industry and wealth with one another, still house the dark paneled rooms where they once discussed finance over fine brandy and cigars.

The corridors still display an old portrait or two of the club's founding fathers whom gaze from polished frames. These portraits are a tangible glimpse into the world of the Gilded Age, and the men who moved it. This book is about them and the part they played on our economic stage. The original members of the Tuxedo Club roster includes these men. Their vision, power, and industrial strength originated and launched one of the most famous clubs in America...



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Emily



Post

Emily was born in Baltimore, Maryland in 1872, and educated by governesses and at private schools in Baltimore and New York. She spent her summers at Bar Harbor, Maine, and Tuxedo Park, New York, which her father Bruce Price, a prominent architect, had been commissioned to design and develop.

The season of her debut Emily Price met Edwin Post, her husband-to-be, at a ball in one of Fifth Avenue's elegant mansions. Following a fashionable wedding and a honeymoon tour of the Continent, Mrs. Post's first home was in New York's Washington Square. When her two sons were old enough to attend boarding school, she turned her attention to writing. Her romantic stories of European and American society were serialized in several popular magazines, and many were successfully published in book form. She became a "traveling correspondent," crossing the United States by car and touring Europe on the eve of World War I. Her stories were published in *Vanity Fair*, *Collier's* and *McCall's*.

Upon publication in 1922 her book, "Etiquette: In Society, In Business, In Politics and At Home," topped the nonfiction bestseller list, and the phrase "according to Emily Post" soon entered our language as the final word on the subject of social conduct. Mrs. Post, who as a girl had been told that well-bred women cannot work, was suddenly a celebrity and an outstanding American career woman, a position she maintained throughout her lifetime. Her numerous books, a syndicated newspaper column, and a regular network radio program made Emily Post a figure of national stature and importance.

Emily Post wrote her famous book on etiquette, based on the manners she learned in Tuxedo Park.



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Liborio Derario holds a B.S. Degree in Building Science & Construction Management and a Bachelor of Architecture degree from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. Additionally, he earned membership to the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards, which allows the practice of architecture in all 50 states and over 38 countries around the world.



As founder of ArchiFuture, architect, management consultant and builder, Liborio Derario has brought together more than 30 years of professional experience to form a design/build organization specifically focused on quality. His vast work experience and professional training highly qualify him to lead ArchiFuture's multifaceted operations.

Considered one of the best architects in his field, Liborio Derario brings a hands-on-approach to all his projects and taps his wealth of experience to ensure that the final project is the realization of the dream the client envisioned at the start of the design process.



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