



# CIGAR BOX BULLETIN

Retired Men's Association of Greenwich, Inc.  
37 Lafayette Place, Greenwich, CT 06830



[www.greenwichrma.org](http://www.greenwichrma.org)

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*"The trouble with political jokes is they often get elected"*

Will Rogers

President **JERRY SCHWENDEMAN** rang the bell at the usual time, this time simultaneously saying very loudly "time for the pledge", it worked! **JOE DOWLING** led the pledge. The musical duo of **DON CONWAY** and **JIM SANTORA** led the assembled in singing *Our National Anthem, Anytime* and *You Gotta Have Heart*.

Corresponding Secretary **GEOFF BURGE** shared some Aussie humour about the foibles of growing old.

RETURNEES: **JOE MANCINELLI** from Blackberry Mtn., TN, **RANDY MOTLAND** from Antarctica, **ANDRZEJ MAZUREK** from the Dominican Republic and **ANDY HOLMES** from Ft Myers, FL. Welcome back guys!

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. **TAD LARRABEE** announced that new speaker schedule cards were available for January to March. There will be a special series of four talks from city officials concerning various aspects of Greenwich now and in the future. They are scheduled for January 8, February 12 and 19 and March 4.

2. **JOEL BLUMBERG** (MD) informed us that the NIH has announced that this year's flu strain will be particularly virulent. **JOEL** urged all those who have not been inoculated to get a flu shot ASAP.

3. **GEORGE STOCKBRIDGE** announced that the Shakespeare group would be watching *Kiss Me Kate* the Broadway musical based on *The Taming of the Shrew* at **KEITH SMITH's** house this afternoon.

4. **TIM BROOKS** updated information on the nascent Writers Group. The group is meant for folks who write and would meet to discuss the process of writing; resources, research, getting published, and other topics the group would decide upon. Contact **TIM** at [tim@timbrooks.net](mailto:tim@timbrooks.net).

5. **TONY COCCHI** proudly announced that the first renewed ROMEO luncheon would be held on Monday, January 13 at Louie's in Cos Cob at 12:30. There is room for more, contact him [anthony.cocchi@lehman.cuny.edu](mailto:anthony.cocchi@lehman.cuny.edu)

MEMORIAL: **RUSS HARDEN** memorialized his friend of ten years **TOM DUFFY**. **TOM** was Brooklyn born, and a Korea vet with an MBA from St. Johns. His career in banking was mostly with Chemical Bank serving in the Pacific region living in such exotic places a Singapore and Hong Kong. He retired to Greenwich in 2006 enjoying skiing, hiking and golf with his wife Moya and children and grandchildren.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

**VISITING:** **MICHAEL AMBROSINO** told us that **HORST TEBBE** is at home recovering from minor surgery and **DOUG FRANCEFORT** is home from Nathaniel Witherell.

**PROGRAM:** This week: **TAD LARRABEE** urged us to stay for Pat Sesto, Director of the Greenwich Department of Environmental Affairs who would explore *Greenwich's Environmental Future* (more below) Next week: **ARTHUR STAMPLEMAN** gave a heads up on next week's speaker, Paul DeForest Hicks who will speak on *Litchfield Law School*, which according to Hicks "provided the most innovative and successful legal education in the country for almost 50 years from 1784-1833." A graduate of Princeton and Harvard Law school, Hicks retired as a Managing Director of JP Morgan, before writing and publishing several books about prominent personages in law and legal history. January 29: **JOEL BLUMBERG** previewed a talk by Bruce McGibbon, MD director of the Radiation Oncology at the Yale University Smilow Cancer Center at Greenwich Hospital. Dr. McGibbon will speak on the latest updates in radiation oncology and the newest therapies for treating various types of cancer.

**MEMBERSHIP:** **PETER STERN** filled in for recovering **HORST TEBBE** and read the numbers; 110 members and 2 candidates (keep reading). Because the CBB was not published over the holidays the birthday list is cumulative: **GEORGE STOCKBRIDGE**, 88, **ARNOLD GORDON**, 83, **JOHN STANKUNAS**, 80, **LYN KAUFMAN**, 94!, **JIM FAHY**, 83, **STEVE BOISE**, 79, **JOHN FARRAUTO**, 81, **JOHN CRAINE**, 84, **BILL EDIC**, 84, **KEATING HAGMAN**, 74, **JAN MEYER**, 80, **BILL FAKUNDINY**, 88, **MIKE HAYDEN**, 88. Many happy returns guys!

## INDUCTEES

**BILL FEATHERSON:** sponsored by **PETER UHRY** and **MICHAEL AMBROSINO**. **BILL** and wife Marci have lived in Greenwich for 36 years. He spent 50 years in the securities business in Chicago and in New York City having retired last year. He enjoys golf, platform tennis (rookie) and intends to take up pickleball in the coming season.

**DAVID WATKINS:** sponsored by **GRANVILLE BURGESS** and **MICHAEL AMBROSINO**. **DAVID**, born in Cold Spring Harbor, NY is currently a Stamfordian involved in the Stamford Board of Representatives and is chairman of ReSource Pro LLC, a company he founded. A graduate of the Harvard School of Business and the USAF(Captain) he spent 20 years in London with Goldman Sachs and then switched to the insurance industry. He is married to Patti and has three adult children and six grandchildren. His passion is cruising in the *Patrician* a 55 ft. Azimut (gas powered).

**SPECIAL EVENTS:** **DON CONWAY** announced that due to lack of interest the trip to the Big Apple Circus has been canceled. **GERRY LESSUK** gave details on the March program (there is none in January or February) Open Rehearsal of the New York Philharmonic, March 12. It will be an all-Russian program featuring music by Stravinsky and Rachmaninoff and conducted by and soloed by Russian musicians. Details at the usual place below.

**VOLUNTEER HOURS:** **ANDRZEJ MAZUREK** explained that since there had been no reporting for a couple of weeks the numbers were most impressive. Outside hours: 738 by 43 men. RMA hours 211 by 26 men. Top reporter **MIKE AMOROSO** with 75 accumulated hours.

## GAMES WE PLAY

**BRIDGE:** **RON MURRAY** dealt the details. Top scorers were: **BRUNO SCHRAGE**, 4130, **ED MASTOLONI**, 4050 and **ANDRZEJ MAZUREK**, 3060.

**HEARTS:** **RICK HOLZ** shuffled to the podium and reported on two week's play. 12/11 winners: **JOHN STANKUNAS (2), JACK SWEGER (2), TOM HEALY, PETER STERN, LOU TROVATO, JACK WEIR, RICH HOLZ** and **JOHN KAVANAUGH**. Moonshooters: **JOHN KAVANAUGH (3) JOHN STANKUNAS (2), TOM HEALY, LOU TROVATO, JACK WEIR, JIM DEAN, JACK SWEGER, DON CONWAY** and **RICK HOLZ**. 12/18 winners: **LOU TROVATO (2), JIM DEAN, JACK SWEGER, ANDY HOLMES, CHARLIE GRAVES, DON CONWAY, JOHN KNIGHT, MIKE AMBROSINO**. Moonshooters: **JOHN STANKUNAS (2), CHARLIE GRAVES, JIM DEAN, and TOM HEALY**.

**INDOOR TENNIS:** **MICHAEL AMBROSINO** served the results for two week's play. 12/20 winners: **PETER ORBANOWSKI & ANDRZEJ MAZUREK: BOB GRAYSON & TOM HEALY** 1/3results: **TOM HEALY & RALPH NEWITTER: MIKE SMITH & RANDY MOTLAND**.

**PLATFORM TENNIS: JIM DEAN** lobbed the fact that 8 people showed up for the January 7 session, six sets were played, and all had a good time. Regular play is Tuesdays at 10am. If interested, contact **MICHAEL AMBROSINO** at [brooklynoil@yahoo.com](mailto:brooklynoil@yahoo.com)

**TAI CHI: WILL MORRISON** stood absolutely still as he provided times and places for his various Tai Chi sessions: at The Greenwich Senior Center, Monday at 3:00 for beginners and Wednesday at 3:00 for more advanced practitioners. New Balance and Focus class at First Church in Old Greenwich 8:30 am on Tuesdays, a \$10 donation to River House or the Church is requested.

### **TODAY'S SPEAKER**

**TAD LARRABEE** introduced Patricia Sesto, Greenwich Director of Environmental Affairs who spoke on history of, causes of, and the impact of sea level rise on Greenwich's infrastructure. She emphasized that sea-level rise is happening NOW and has been happening for as long as measurements have been taken. Scientists have forecast a 12-inch rise in the century 2000-2100. A worst-case scenario predicts as much as a 8.2 feet rise in the same time period. Sea-level rise is due to, among other causes, warming of the seas causing expansion, greater volumes of water due to melting ice run-off, and changes in the geology of seabeds. Other dangers to the environment are due to storm surges (Hurricane Sandy) and increasing high-tide flooding. All these forces can result in, among others, coastal erosion, nuisance flooding (flooded streets), saltwater invasion, septic failure and storm sewer failure. With these dire predictions in mind, the Town of Greenwich has initiated several inter-disciplinary studies to refine the knowledge of the impact(s) of sea-level rise and to come up with practical solutions to deal with nature. The talk was followed by a spirited RMA Q&A.

### **SPECIAL EVENTS**

Open to all members, spouses, candidates and guests. Checks should be made out to RMA and must be received within two weeks of the reservation or the reservation will be canceled. Buses depart from the St. Catherine Church parking lot on Riverside Avenue opposite the church. Contact persons are listed with each event.

Thursday, March 12 – Open Rehearsal NY Philharmonic, Lunch at Café Fiorello, cost \$105 pp, departing from St. Catherine Church at 8:00 am. Contact **GERRY LESSUK** 203-698-9451.

### **NEXT SPEAKER**

Paul DeForest Hicks, lawyer, legal historian and author will explore the history of a unique law school, the Litchfield Law School (1784-1833.)

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### RMA 2020 Calendar

<b>Weekly Repetitive Activities</b>			
<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Location</b>
Mondays	3:00 to 4:00	Tai Chi Beginner	Greenwich Sr. Center
Tuesdays	10:00 am	Platform Tennis	Loughlin Ave. Courts, Cos Cob
Wednesdays	10:00am to 11:00 am	RMA Weekly Meeting	First Presbyterian Church, One West Putnam Ave., Greenwich CT
Wednesdays	1:00 to 3:00 pm	Hearts	Greenwich Civic Ctr. 90 Harding Road, Old Greenwich
Wednesdays	3:00 to 4:00	Tai Chi Advanced	Greenwich Sr. Center
Wednesdays	1:00 to 3:00 pm	Bridge	Greenwich YMCA
Thursdays	9:00 AM	RMA Walking	Various TBD
Fridays	1:30pm to 3:00 pm	Indoor Tennis	Old Greenwich Tennis Academy
<b>RMA Special Events</b>			
March 12, 2020	8:00 am	Open Rehearsal NY Philharmonic	Lincoln Center, NYC