

CIGAR BOX BULLETIN

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*Here are the volunteers who publish this Bulletin each week for your enjoyment: **Editor:** George Stockbridge, Chair; **Scribes:** Gran Burgess, Av Rivel, Kurt Schaffir, Peter Uhry, Jim Butler, Arnold Gordon, Ed Farrell; Martin Grayson, Emeritus; **Format and Layout:** Gene Schwartz, Paul Levine and Jack Cuff; **Archivist:** Harold Frost; **Printing:** Chet Risio, Larry Schmitz*

“Some cause happiness wherever they go, others whenever they leave”

Oscar Wilde

On the coldest day of the year (13 days in), 97 shivering men (according to HORST TEBBE who should know) icily responded to president VIGGIANO'S frantic bell ringing at 10:00 AM. DICK BERGSTRESSER came in off the bench to sub for a missing pledge leader and did an admirable job. He was followed by the dynamic duo of TOM HEALY baton waver, and JIM SANTORA, piano player, leading us in *God Bless America* (rousing), *Button Up Your Overcoat* (twice) and *This Little Light of Mine* (both verses).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RALPH VIGGIANO noted that today's speaker was interviewed on a Greenwich radio station earlier and this might be a good practice to follow.

RALPH also reminded the assembled that in the case of snow (you remember that white stuff), the RMA will follow the Greenwich Schools: if they close, we close.

TAD LARRABEE strode to the mike to announce that RMA Walkers were suspended until spring. Spring will also bring an improved business model to the group.

BOB ROBINS made the ROMEO announcement. The next luncheon will be on January 27th at the Innis Arden CC, steak or salmon. Cost is \$45 per person with a cash bar. There will be a wine raffle sponsored by the country club and the Dow Jones pool will be inaugurated.

PETE UHRY requested that anyone who was or who knew a member of the Tamarack CC contact him. 203-637-9482.

RETURNEES: BOB PHILLIPS from Germany and Austria, and STEVE BOIES from Oregon and Northern California. Welcome Home!

WEEKLY HUMOR: JERRY SCHWENDEMAN told a story about a painter who knew all about cars.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

VISITING: CHUCK STANDARD reported that ROBERT WHITBY, HAVEN KNIGHT and RON KLINGNER were all hospitalized this week. He then urged all off us to “stay healthy and be happy.” Trying hard, CHUCK.

PROGRAM-This week: JIM FISHBEIN gave a head’s-up on today’s speaker: details below.

PROGRAM-Next week: AL KNIGHT announced that next week Themis Klarides, Republican Minority Leader, CT House of Representatives, will speak on “Connecticut’s Business Climate: Challenges and Solutions”.

MEMBERSHIP: HORST TEBBE reported 97 men present, all RMA members. Birthday celebrants were DAVID MCKEE 86 and JOHN POOLE 73. Both were heartily serenaded.

SPECIAL EVENTS: GERRY LESSUK announced that the trip to the Philharmonic is on for tomorrow and the February trip to the Bruce Museum is accepting sign-ups.

VOLUNTEERS: GERRY MAYFIELD volunteered the information that this past week 46 men worked 363 hours for outside agencies and 26 did 95 hours for the RMA. High scorer was Martin Waine with 33 hours.

THE SCORE BOARD

BRIDGE: KURT SCHAFFIR dealt the data that there were 12 players last week. High scores were GRANT PERKINS 6,610, DICK CASE 4,080 and BOB UNDERWOOD 3,110.

TENNIS: MIKE SMITH gamely served the scores from last week’s games.

On court 1 JERRY GIBIAN and Bill Fakundiny triumphed and on court 2 PETER STREICH and BRUNO SCHRAGE bested their opponents. Next week’s captain is RANDY MOTLAND.

TODAY’S SPEAKER

Janeen Bjork, a Greenwich resident and 30 year veteran of TV programming and research shared her enthusiasm with newspapers.

A most animated speaker, she reported the history of newspapers in America starting in 1690 with a monthly published in Boston. She traced the evolution of newspapers;

problems with “the authorities”, the influence of emerging technologies i.e. the telegraph and steam driven printers and touched upon the introduction of TV and Internet news. She peppered her talk with anecdotes, which highlighted the story of print journalism in our country. She finished with the story of newspapers in Greenwich. A lively RMA Q&A followed.

Respectfully reported by **Av Rivel**

SPECIAL EVENTS

Open to all members, spouses, candidates, and guests. Checks made out to RMA.

Bruce Museum: Thursday, February 11, 2016, arrival time 9:45 AM, lunch at The Field Club. No charge for tour. Lunch \$38.

Status: Open: Transportation by personal car.

For more details and to sign-up, contact GERRY LESSUK (gerrless@att.net, 203-698-9451) or ABBEY SMOLER (abbeysmoler@gmail.com, 203-531-0236)

NEXT WEEK'S SPEAKER

Themis Klarides, Republican Minority Leader, CT House of Representatives will speak on “Connecticut’s Business Climate: Challenges and Solutions”

Visit the RMA website at www.greenwichrma.org