



CIGAR BOX BULLETIN

Retired Men's Association of Greenwich, Inc.

60 Years of Fellowship and Community Service
Visit us on the web at www.greenwichrma.org



Here are the volunteers who publish this Bulletin each week for your enjoyment. **Editor/Chairman:** Chet Risio. **Scribes:** Av Rivel, Kurt Schaffir, Ed Farrell, Chet Risio, Gerry Lessuk, Steve Elliot, George Stockbridge, Emeritus. (On leave: Gran Burgess, Jim Butler, and Arnold Gordon). **Archivist:** Harold Frost. **Format and Layout:** Gene Schwartz and Jack Cuff. **Reproduction/Distribution:** Walker Collins, and Chet Risio.

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January 25, 2017

"No one party can fool all of the people all of the time: that's why we have two !".....Bob Hope

At a few minutes after 10 AM president UHRY rang the bell and coaxed the assembled retirees to their seats to start the meeting.

JOHN CRAINE ably led the pledge. He was followed by the talented ERF PORTER and PETER RYAN who led the community sing in *God Bless America*, *Once in Love with Amy*, and *You Made Me Love You*.

Corresponding Secretary de jure CHUCK STANDARD told two quickies about Geometry lesson and a Bible story.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. PETER UHRY:

- a. Was the only returnee; from Southern California, where he visited old-time RMA'er BOB OPPENHEIM, who re-retired to Costa Mesa. PETER reported that BOB, aged 102 was alive and well and feeling up to snuff.
- b. Offered parking passes to all who needed one; See PETER or HORST TEBBE.
- c. Reminded all that the RMA is non-political and non-partisan and announcements of those natures are not permitted. Political discussions are limited to the back of the room, before the meeting and during coffee.

2. HOLLISTER STURGES reported:

- a. A change in the speaker schedule: On Feb 22, Congressman Jim Hines, 4th CD (all of Greenwich and much of Fairfield county) would speak.
- b. The wife of a popular recent speaker, Prof Joel Blatt, is a professional dancer and will be appearing in New York City in February. Details are on the bulletin board.

3. JACK SWEGER announced that he was trying to start a “Hearts Card Group” to play every Wednesday afternoon. If interested contact him [\(203\) 869-4028](tel:(203)869-4028) or GRANT PERKINS [\(804\) 350-6988](tel:(804)350-6988)

COMMITTEES

VISITING: CHUCK STANDARD noted that GEORGE PATTERSON is doing well following shoulder surgery and expects to return to the RMA in a few weeks,

MEMBERSHIP: HORST TEBBE recited the numbers, announced the birthdays and inducted our newest member. Present and accounted for 97 members, 3 candidates and 1 guest, Jason Paik, guest of JACK WEIR.

Natal day celebrants were WALTER CHUNG, 77 JACK WEIR, 70 and PETER BIENNEMANN, 82.

Sponsored by PAUL BRADY and JIM SANTORA, RON PLATT was unanimously elected to membership. RON, a former teacher moved to Greenwich only 2 years ago, and made quite an impression on his sponsors. Note to TAD LARRABEE, he is a walker!

VOLUNTEERS: HAROLD KUPLESKY noted that for the week ending January 25, 38 men reported 394 volunteer hours for outside agencies, and 25 men reported 108 volunteer hours for the RMA. Your faithful scribe was high man for the week with 37 accumulated hours.

PROGRAMS: AL KNIGHT did the honors. Today’s speaker will be **Christopher Kabala**, former music director and organist at Round Hill Community Church, who will present a program on the music of J.S. Bach.

Next week **Darren Powers**, manager of the ShopRite store in Old Greenwich will enlighten us about today’s super grocery stores.

SPECIAL EVENTS: ABBY SMOLER gave the status report below:

THE SCOREBOARD

BRIDGE: FRANK LEE dealt the scores: #1 WALKER COLLINS: 4340, #2 ANDRE MAZUREK: 3400- #3 KURT SCHAFFIR: 3230

TENNIS: PETER UHRY served up the scores: Court 1, PETER UHRY and MIKE SMITH, Court 2: BILL FAKUNDINY and MIKE AMBROSINO. Next week’s captain: DON BREISMEISTER.

TODAY’S SPEAKERS

Music maven **Christopher Kabala** gave a delightful and informative talk about the music of Johann Sebastian Bach, which he called “The Gold Standard of Western Music”. He opened by explaining some of the societal factors, as well as the musical traditions of France and Italy that informed Bach’s work. He then illustrated with pictures and music the transition of Western music from the homophony of Renaissance music to the polyphony of the Baroque. He also explained and illustrated these terms. The Q & A was conducted with humor and erudition.

SPECIAL EVENTS

The Events are open to all members, spouses, candidates and guests. For reservations contact trip coordinators ABBEY SMOLER (203-531-0236) and MIKE FERRARESE (203-554-0678). Checks for payment are to be made out to the RMA, and must be received within two (2) weeks following the making of the reservations or the reservations will be cancelled.

- **Mark Twain Museum - February 23, 2017**; Box Lunch; Cost \$76 per person; Bus departs from St. Catherine at 9 AM. 12 places available.
- **Lamont Earth Observatory - March 30, 2017**; In House Lunch; Cost \$60 per person; Bus departs from St. Catherine At 9 AM. Places available.

NEXT WEEK’S SPEAKER

Next week the RMA will welcome: **Darren Powers**, manager of ShopRite, Old Greenwich

Scribe of the Week: **Av Rivel** prepared this report while listening to J. S. Bach’s music.

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