



CIGAR BOX BULLETIN

Retired Men's Association of Greenwich, Inc.

60 Years of Fellowship and Community Service
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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, Jack Cuff, and Andre Mazurek. **Reproduction/Distribution:** Walker Collins, and Chet Risio.

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Shortly after 10 AM PRESIDENT PETER UHRY shook the bell summoning members to their seats to begin the meeting.

STEVE MARINO volunteered to lead the Pledge of Allegiance followed by DON CONWAY lending his tenor to lead the members through three songs: *America the Beautiful*, *When Irish Eyes were Smiling*, and *When you wore a Tulip*. GEORGE STOCKBRIDGE on the piano provided skilled and tuneful support.

Corresponding Secretary BOB LUCE related a story about a conversation between two women in heaven and how they ended up there.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. JACK SWEGER is trying to get a group of members together who would be interested in playing the card game called "Hearts". The group would meet after the Wednesday meeting at the Baptist Church where the Bridge Club also meets. Members interested should contact JACK.
2. About the planned trip to the Lamont Earth Observatory, STEVE MEYER pointed out that a lot of walking and stair climbing would be involved and that selecting labs for the tour that are close to the meeting area may be desirable to reduce the amount of walking and stair climbing. Steve will follow up on this issue.
3. PRESIDENT UHRY mentioned that the Book Club "Greenwich Reads Together" is interested in having an RMA member on the Club's Book Selection Committee. A significant amount of book reading would be involved. PETER also welcomed back JIM BUTLER from Rwanda, and KLAUS JANDER from India.

MEMORIAL: JIM FAHY memorialized the passing of member DEMETRIO (TONY) PELLICANO on January 19, 2017 at the age of 93. TONY was born in Reggio Calabria, Italy, immigrated with family to Montreal, Canada and came to Greenwich, CT where he lived for more than 50 years.

COMMITTEES

VISITING: CHUCK STANDARD noted that PHILIP SMITH has cancer and has entered Hospice. ED BLOOM has been hospitalized with pneumonia.

MEMBERSHIP: HORST TEBBE counted the number attending at 93 members, 3 candidates (Gerry Friedman, Jason Paik, and Tom Moroney who will stand for induction), and 4 guests: Peter LeBau, a g/o ERF PORTER; Bruce Pantano, a g/o GERRY MAYFIELD; Alan Gunzburg, a g/o PAUL SETTLEMEYER; and Robert Jamieson, a g/o JACK WEIR.

The candidate Tom Moroney was introduced for induction by STEVE MARINO who has known TOM for more than 50 years, and seconded by TOM HEALY. Tom Moroney has earned a Bachelors and Master's Degree in EE and has had a variety of engineering assignments. TOM was inducted by acclimation.

Happy Birthday was sung for JACK WEIR, 70 and PETER BLENNEMANN, 82.

VOLUNTEERS: ROSS CURTIS presented the following hours: 393 outside hours by 45 members; 134 inside hours by 26 members; top RMA member hours 58 by MIKE AMBROSINO.

PROGRAMS: JOHN DECSEPEL gave some background on today's speaker **Darren Powers**, Manager of the very large supermarket ShopRite in Stamford, CT.

JIM FISHBEIN advised that next week's speaker will be **Frank Prial, Jr.**, an architect who will discuss the restoration of the Grand Central Terminal Building in New York City.

SPECIAL EVENTS: MIKE FERRARESE announced a new Special Event, a trip to the Culinary Institute for lunch - a sliced steak entree at the Caterina De Medici Restaurant - and a visit to the FDR museum in Hyde Park, N. Y. For those who may be vegetarians or are not steak eaters, see Mike for other available menu choices. Full details below.

THE SCOREBOARD

BRIDGE: RALPH VIGGIANO reported that 9 members played, with the following three having the highest scores - BRUNO SCHRAGE 4,800 points; ANDRE MAZUREK 3,390 points; and tied for 3rd, FRANK LEE & KURT SCHAFFIR with 3,030 points.

TENNIS: MIKE SMITH reported that Court #1 winners were GERRY GIBIAN and MIKE SMITH, and Court #2 winners were JOE MANCINELLI & PETER STREICH. Next week's captain is JOHN KNIGHT.

TODAY'S SPEAKER

Darren Powers is the Store Manager of the Cingari family owned large scale retail supermarket **ShopRite** located in Commerce Park in Stamford, CT. The Cingari's started with selling produce from a truck in the 1930s, then opened a small store in Stamford, then a larger store in an abandoned factory and continued expanding until today there are 300 ShopRite stores spread over 7 states. The huge Commerce ShopRite occupies 75,000 thousand square feet and employs 251 full and part time employees who are employed on three shifts every day of the year except for three holidays. Darren feels that what makes the Cingari enterprise different is the focus on customer satisfaction. Darren has worked in the grocery business for more than 25 years, starting in high school and has worked for the Cingari family for the past 11 years. He lives in Brookfield with his wife and two daughters.

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. 8 places available.
- **Lamont Earth Observatory - March 30, 2017**; In House Lunch; Cost \$60 per person; Bus departs from St. Catherine At 9 AM. 4 places available.
- **Culinary Institute & FDR Museum - April 20, 2017**; Lunch at the Caterina De Medici Restaurant; Cost \$96 per person; Bus departs from St. Catherine 9:30 AM; Places available.

NEXT WEEK'S SPEAKER

Frank Prial, Jr. a partner in the Architect Firm of Beer, Blinder & Bell will be discussing the history and significance of the Grand Central Terminal building, the process of its restoration, and how it has become a model for other major landmark restorations.

GERRY LESSUK, Scribe du Jour

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

MEMBER PROFILE

This is the ninth in a series of Member Profiles designed to allow members to know one another beyond a face and a name

GEORGE UBOGY

I grew up in the Inwood section of upper Manhattan (where the Cloisters and Fort Tryon Park are located) and attended the Bronx High School of Science, Cornell University and NYU Medical School. On Saturday mornings during junior high school and high school, I would go to music school (Juilliard Pre-College Division, which my wife refers to as "Juilliard Prep") for piano lessons and Music Theory classes.

At Cornell, I noticed a musical competition for learning to play tuned bells in a bell tower (think Quasimodo without the hump) and was chosen to join their student group, who rang out music on the Cornell Chimes twenty times a week. In addition to performing, we were responsible for making new musical arrangements and enclosing them in the files for others to play. (I still submit arrangements, which are generally accepted into their archive).

After completing my medical training, I became a general internist (now called primary care physician) and moved to Greenwich in 1971, taking over the practice of Dr. Peter Arturi when he left private practice to become one of the original Emergency Room attending physicians of Greenwich Hospital. In 1980, the hospital developed a treatment program for alcoholism and drug dependence and I became its medical director, offering detoxification, rehabilitation and outpatient services. The patients were appreciative and the work, when successful, highly gratifying.

My military service consisted of six years in the Army Reserves, 1963-1969.

I retired from medicine in 2013 and volunteered for Meals on Wheels. I also became a member of Greenwich Hospital Institutional Review Board, (a Research Oversight Committee). I joined the Greenwich Retired Men's Association, where I was recruited by George Stockbridge to be one of the piano players, and have also participated in the selection of speakers by the RMA Program Committee. When the weather is good, I join the RMA walking group to explore the streets or trails in the Greenwich area.

I enjoy reading (and not having letters to the editor published in the NY Times). I engage in music, roller blading and bicycling. (My wife thinks I've become a "Chatty Cathy" in my old age).

My wife, Jo, and I were married in 1965. We were able to become Florida snowbirds after my retirement. We now live in Sarasota during the winter months. She and I have two sons, two grandsons and two granddaughters. No more cats (did I forgot to mention them?), lots of flowers. It's good to be in one's 70's.