

CIGAR BOX BULLETIN

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, Bernard Schneider, Jim Butler, Arnold Gordon, Ed Farrell; Martin Grayson, Emeritus; **Format and Layout:** Gene Schwartz, Fred Waldron; **Archivist:** Harold Frost; **Printing:** Chet Risio, Larry Schmitz

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President BOB PHILLIPS rang the opening bell at 10:00 AM sharp and summoned BOB BISHOP to lead us in The Pledge. With GEORGE STOCKBRIDGE at the keyboard, BOB MORGAN led us in singing *The Star Spangled Banner*, *Sentimental Journey* and *Ain't She Sweet*. Subbing for the absent Corresponding Secretary, TOM HEALY, BILL DYNAN told us of an elderly gentleman, who had a difficult confession to make.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: BOB PHILLIPS noted that an effort to identify widows of deceased RMA members is underway, and that a list of known widows has been posted on the meeting bulletin board. Members were encouraged to review the list and make appropriate additions. BOB also announced the following: the 2015 annual RMA dinner is scheduled for November 4, 2015, at the Burning Tree Country Club; the annual RMA picnic is scheduled for September 10, 2015, at Greenwich Point; TAD LARRABEE will lead the new Information Technology (IT) committee and would welcome assistance from members with IT experience; an alternative meeting facility is being sought for the RMA November 11, 2015, meeting because the church facility will be unavailable on that date. GEORGE STOCKBRIDGE announced a free afternoon of opera selections at First Presbyterian Church on Sunday, February 8, 2015, beginning at 3:00 PM. The program includes favorite arias, duets, trios and quartets from a variety of operas. JOHN DECSEPEL volunteered a story about a loner in a bar, who wasn't included when all others in the place received free drinks.

RETURNEES: BOB PHILLIPS welcomed returnee WAYNE DEVRIES (Florida).

COMMITTEE REPORTS: **Visiting:** CHUCK STANDARD had a bunch of calendars for the taking, and was happy to report he was unaware of any members in hospital or rehab. **Program:** AL KNIGHT announced that today's speaker will be Harvey Weiner, who will discuss his Vietnam experience. JEFF PARKER announced that next week the RMA will host the Grace Notes, a Greenwich born a cappella singing group, which has performed at many nursing homes, libraries, re-hab centers, etc. since 1967. **Membership:** HORST TEBBE reported 91 members present along with 3 candidates (Phil Smith, Dick Ford, Peter Orbanowski), and 1 guest (Alan Berk, a guest of JIM FAHY). This week's **Birthdays:** JERRY ISAACSON (88) and BOB ALDEN (86). **Special Events:** GERRY LESSUK announced that two trips are currently scheduled. See details below. **Volunteers:** TOM WOOLEY reported that, for the week ending February 4, 2015, 72 men reported 377 volunteer hours on behalf of outside agencies

and 26 men reported 132 volunteer hours on behalf of RMA. The most hours (26) were reported by TAD LARRABEE.

FUN AND GAMES: **Bridge:** KURT SCHAFFIR reported that the January 28, 2015, game drew 8 players. MARTIN WAYNE was high with 4660 followed by FRANK LEE, 4520, and KURT SCHAFFIR, 3030. **Tennis:** RANDY MOTLAND reported the following winners on January 30, 2015. Court 1: MICHAEL WARNER and RALPH VIGGIANO. Court 2: PETER STREICH and RANDY MOTLAND. Next week's captain will be BERNARD SCHNEIDER.

TODAY'S SPEAKER: Harvey Weiner, a former U.S. Army Intelligence Officer, who served in Vietnam (1969-70) spoke about his experiences serving in remote, hostile areas of that country. He described his operations experience as part of Operation Phoenix, as well as the intelligence gathering process in his area of responsibility. Those experiences have had a lasting impact on his life with respect to his attitude towards war and life, itself. He continues to call on his Vietnam experience in counseling others who have experienced war and other trauma.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Open to all Members, Guests, Candidates and spouses. Checks should be made out to RMA.

NY Philharmonic Rehearsal at Lincoln Center: Thursday, February 5, 2015. Cost is \$98 per person including lunch at the Atlantic Grill (one place available). Bus will leave St. Catherine's promptly at 8:00 AM.

Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory: Thursday, March 19, 2015. Cost is \$50 per person including in-house lunch (currently wait-listed). Bus leaves St. Catherine's at 9:00 AM.

For more details and to sign-up, contact GERRY LESSUK (gerrless@att.net, 203-698-9451) or RICH LIMBACHER (limbacher29@verizon.net, 203-531-9515)

NEXT WEEK'S PROGRAM

The RMA will host **the Grace Notes**, an a cappella singing group.

Visit our website at www.greenwichrma.org.

Respectfully Submitted: Ed Farrell