



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, Gerry Lessuk, Dan Fredland, and George Stockbridge. On leave: Arnold Gordon, Steve Elliot, Marshall Toppo. **Archivist:** Harold Frost. **Format:** Jack Cuff, Gene Schwartz, and Andrzej Mazurek. **Graphics:** Av Rivel, **Print/Distribution:** Chet Risio.

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February 7, 2018

Scribe: Ed Farrell

“Live as if you were to die tomorrow; learn as if you were to live forever” -Mahatma Gandhi

As the snow began to fall on a raw winter's day, President DON CONWAY called the meeting to order, and introduced BOB MORGAN to lead us in the Pledge. TOM HEALY then led us in singing *America the Beautiful*, *Yes Sir That's My Baby* and *You're Nobody 'Til Somebody Loves You*. TOM then got a smidgen of laughs for two stories of horny old men, one of whom wanted to tell the world of his sexual exploits, and the other, who forgot such exploits, but wanted to pay for them nonetheless.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

DON CONWAY noted that on February 10, Kathie and TOM HEALY will celebrate 50 years of wedded bliss. DON then reminded all of the importance of getting a flu shot even this late in the flu season. DON also reported that the 2018 Citizens Police Academy will get underway on April 16, and that he and other members enjoyed participating in the academy and highly recommend it. Don asked to be told when a member learns of another member who is ill or otherwise incapacitated. DON noted he is seeking someone to take over responsibility for **Visiting**, a position left open by the passing of CHUCK STANDARD. RALPH VIGGIANO reported that DON BREISMEISTER is recovering from back surgery at home and is doing well.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Program: BOB PHILLIPS urged members to remain for a talk by John Donovan, who will speak about the role of his father, James Donovan, and his own participation in negotiations with the Soviet Union and Cuba during the Cold War. Next week's speaker will be Stephen Roach, whose subject will be *The World Inside Out; The Impact of Globalization*.

Membership: HORST TEBBE reported 72 members present at today's meeting. HORST recognized **three birthday boys:** JACK SWEGER (87); JOHN VECCHIONE (82); and JORG BLASER (72).

Volunteers: GRANT PERKINS reported 30 men donated 270 hours to outside agencies, and 18 men reported 75 volunteer hours for the RMA. JIM SANTORA had the most hours for the week (29).

FUN AND GAMES:

Bridge: RON FRIEDMAN reported the winners on January 31 were: KURT SCHAFFIR (4340); TONY COCCHI (3020); RON FRIEDMAN (2290).

Tennis: TONY COCCHI reported that the winners of last week's contests were RON FRIEDMAN and ANDRZEJ MAZUREK on court #1 and TONY COCCHI and MIKE SMITH ON COURT #2.

Hearts: TOM HEALY reported the winners on table #1 were: TOM HEALY, RALPH VIGGIANO and MICHAEL AMBROSINO. JACK SWEGER won two games on table #2. The following players shot the moon: TOM HEALY, RALPH VIGGIANO, MICHAEL AMBROSINO and JACK SWEGER.

TODAY'S SPEAKER

John B. Donovan offered an interesting retrospective on some major Cold War events in which his father, James Donovan, played an important role, and his own recollections of some of those events where he accompanied his father. It was his father, who negotiated the exchange of spy Rudolph Abel for U2 pilot Francis Gary Powers, who had been shot down and captured by the Russians. Mr. Donovan recounted his experience in accompanying his father during negotiations for the release of the Bay of Pigs invaders. This experience gave him insights into why the Cuban people admired Castro. He told of his arrest by the East German police and how he gained an early release, because he remembered the name and title of the top KGB officer in East Germany. Mr. Donovan's anecdotes were most interesting.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Open to all Members, Guests, Candidates and Spouses. Checks should be made out to RMA, must be received within two weeks following the reservation or the reservation will be cancelled. Contact MIKE FERRARESE (myagentmike@yahoo.com / 203-554-0678) or ABBEY SMOLER (abbeysmoler@gmail.com / 203-531-0236) for information.

Elmsford Dinner Theater – A Chorus Line. Thursday, February 22, 2018. Lunch: At theater. Cost: \$120.00. Bus leaves St. Catherine's at 10:00 AM. Status: wait List.

Bruce Museum - Thursday, March 22, 2018. Lunch: Milbrook Club. Cost:
\$60.00. Transportation: Self – meet at museum at 9:45 AM. Status: 16 openings.

West Point - Thursday, April 19, 2018. Lunch: Thayer Hotel. Cost: \$85.00. Bus
leaves St. Catherine's at 8:45 AM. Status: 5 openings.

Botanical Gardens - Thursday, May 24, 2018. Lunch: Mario's Restaurant. Cost:
\$105.00. Bus leaves St. Catherine's at 8:45 AM. Status: 31 openings.

NEXT WEEK

Next week the RMA will welcome:

Stephen Roach, “[The World Inside Out; The Impact of Globalization](#)”.

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