



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, 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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February 15, 2017

“How do you tell if a politician is lying? His lips are moving.” Anonymous

President PETER UHRY was prompt in calling the meeting to order at 10 a.m. BOB BISHOP led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. JERRY SCHWENDEMAN as song leader directed us in “God Bless America”, “The Darktown Strutters’ Ball” and “Mame” as BOB MORGAN accompanied on piano. Corresponding Secretary TOM HEALY told us a story of a man driving with a missing tail light. A policeman pulled him over and discovered his license had expired. The argument that ensued between the man and his wife ended with a droll punchline.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

JACK SWEGER asked for a show of hands, then said today’s game of “hearts” would be at 1 to 3 p.m. in Greenwich Baptist Church today only.

GEORGE STOCKBRIDGE invited all to join a new RMA Shakespeare Group. We will view weekly 45-minute DVD’s by a very lively and knowledgeable professor, on many of the 2 dozen most popular Shakespeare plays. They will be hosted in the homes of Group members. A written syllabus accompanies the lectures. Those interested should email GEORGE at grspersonal@aol.com, or phone him at 203-698-0710.

PETER asked us to buttonhole MIKE RYAN if you want him as docent to give you a backstage tour of the Metropolitan Opera House. He was in the audience.

RETURNEES:

PETER STERN returning from Aspen; DOUG TAYLOR from Big Sky, MT. GENE SCHWARTZ from sunny Florida.

PROGRAM:

JIM FISHBEIN invited us to stay for today's speaker, Professor **Jeffrey M. Paige** of the University of Michigan, about the indigenous uprisings in the Andes of South America at the turn of the 21st century. AL KNIGHT announced a change in schedule. Next week's speaker will be U.S. Congressman from Connecticut, Jim Himes, who will review the first 100 days of the Trump presidency, and that U.S Senator Chris Murphy from Connecticut will be our speaker in April.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

MEMBERSHIP: HORST TEBBE gave us the attendance figures: there were 90 members, 3 candidates, one guest. Candidates were Gerry Friedman, Bruce Pantano and Alan Gunzberg. The guest of RUSS HARDEN was Dave Crystal. Celebrating **birthdays** were HAROLD FROST, 82; CHARLES MOSHER, 85; WAYNE DEVRIES, 73; PETER SCHIEFERDECKER, 91, and RANDY MOTLAND, 81. HORST added that WALLY BENEVILLE and PAUL BRADY are marking a birthday, but HORST has no date of birth for either man. Also that 11 members need to tell him their email addresses.

VOLUNTEERS: RUSS HARDEN weighed in with the information that 36 men reported 282 hours since last meeting. Where are the hours for the other 63 men ??; 26 men reported 133 hours for RMA jobs.

VISITING: CHUCK STANDARD, sporting a prominent red flashing heart on his lapel, told us that PHIL SMITH is in hospice care at home (leukemia); ED BLOOM is in rehab at Nathaniel Witherell (pneumonia); BILL SALTSMAN is still not getting well (cold) and TED SPOOL is showing little improvement.

SPECIAL EVENTS: MIKE FERRARESE notified us that the trip scheduled for February 23 to the home and museum of MARK TWAIN has had to be postponed until Thursday, July 20. Anyone who had signed up for 2-23 and cannot make it on 7-20 may request a full refund from MIKE.

GAMES:

JOE MANCINELLI served up the **TENNIS** scores. On Court #1, GERRY GIBIAN and BRUNO SCHRAGE; on Court #2 BILL FAKUNDINY and JOE MANCINELLI. Next week's captain is JOE MANCINELLI.

PETER STERN reported that there were 8 **BRIDGE** players. Scores were 5400 for JAMES CHUNG; 4160 for KURT SCHAFFIR; 3750 for SANJAY SANTHANAM.

TODAY'S SPEAKER

Jeffrey Paige, professor at the University of Michigan, author of "Indigenous Revolution in Ecuador and Bolivia: 1990-2005", presented an illustrated talk about the remarkable peaceful and non-violent demonstrations that arose around the turn of the 21st century in those two countries, conquered by Pizarro leading an army of Spain in 1532. From then up until 1990, the indigenous people there remained in the condition of feudal serfs to the ruling governments. Peaceful marches, bringing large boulders to block railroads and major highways, as well as colorful posters advocating giving a voice and power to the indigenous folk, were their tactics. It took several years before they gained some seats in the congresses of those countries. Then, Evo Morales was elected president of Bolivia. Today, indigenous persons control the congresses of both Ecuador and Bolivia.

SPECIAL EVENTS

MIKE FERRARESE reviewed for us:

March 20 will be our trip to LAMONT EARTH OBSERVATORY. Cost is \$60, including lunch at Lamont. Bus leaves St. Catherine's at 9 a.m. There are 5 vacancies.

April 20 will feature our trip to the Caterina de Medici restaurant at the CULINARY INSTITUTE and the FDR MUSEUM. Cost is \$96, bus leaves at 9:30 from St. Catherine's. There are 7 vacancies.

Our May 25 trip has just been opened to reservations , to NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDENS. Lunch is at Mario's on Arthur Avenue. You need to choose from a menu whether you want fish, pasta, veal or chicken. Make your reservation with MIKE (203-554-0678) or ABBEY SMOLER (203-531-0236). Visit our website at www.greenwichrma.org

NEXT WEEK'S SPEAKER

Jim Himes, U.S. Congressman from Connecticut, will review the first 100 days of the Trump presidency.

George Stockbridge, Scribe of the Week

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