

# CIGAR BOX BULLETIN

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*"If one tells the truth, one is sure, sooner*

*or later to be found out."* **Oscar Wilde**

President MIKE SMITH rang in the meeting at 10 a.m. BILL DYNAN proudly led our Pledge of Allegiance to Old Glory. Song leader CHUCK STANDARD enthusiastically led us in "God Bless America" followed by "Grand Old Flag" and his favorite "Yankee Doodle Dandy". PETER RYAN mastered the Steinway in accompaniment. Standing in as Corresponding Secretary, TOM HEALY related a droll story about a bridge to Hawaii and a magic genie in a bottle.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** - JIM DANIEL announced the next concert by the Chamber Players of the Greenwich Symphony on Sunday March 2, 4pm at Round Hill Community Church and Monday March 3, 7:30pm at Bruce Museum. Music by Mozart, Mendelssohn and Raff is featured, as well as the viola player of the Metropolitan Opera orchestra, Vincent Lioni. Tickets \$25 include wine and cheese receptions.

TAD LARRABEE touted the upcoming concert Saturday, March 8, 4:30pm at spacious Christ Church by Greenwich Choral Society, where half a dozen of us RMA's are performing in the chorus of 100. The main work is by Rossini, usually associated with comic opera, who wrote his sacred "Petite Messe Solennelle." In addition, opera choruses by Verdi, Mascagni and Rossini will complete the dazzling celebration of the power of great music. Get your tickets now at [tickets@greenwichchoralsociety.org](mailto:tickets@greenwichchoralsociety.org), or phone 203-622-5136.

GEORGE STOCKBRIDGE gave the report of the Opera Group. The Bow Tie theater near the railroad station will show Puccini's "La Boheme" Wednesday evening, February 26 at 7 p.m. performed by the Royal Opera House of London. Tickets \$10 at the door. It's in HD color with English subtitles. "Live in HD from the Met" performances at nearby theater screens include both the premiere Saturday matinees of Borodin's "Prince Igor" on March 1, and Massenet's "Werther" on March 15.

MANNY BONVENUTO announced a President's Day celebration of patriotic music and poetry at Byram Shubert Library tomorrow, February 20 at 7pm. Free admission.

MIKE SMITH sadly reported that member WALTER BURNS has died.

BERNARD SCHNEIDER offered an attractive letter-size color poster announcing the upcoming speakers through the end of April. He urges us to take them and post them around town.

JACK BAUSMAN proudly boasted of his grand-nephew, Gus Kenworthy winning the Olympic's silver medal in "free ski" at the current winter games in Sochi, Russia.

MIKE SMITH welcomed back returnees PETER UHRY from Cayman Islands; DOUG TAYLOR from Montana; ART ROBINSON from Hawaii; ED BLOOM from Florida; HORST TEBBE from California; KURT SHAFFIR from Cuba.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**-Visiting:** CHUCK STANDARD told us that DICK RADCLIFFE is at Edgehill still in rehab, and doing well; ERIC KNUDSEN is settling in at Nathaniel Witherell's dementia unit.

**-Membership:** JIM FAHY related that we had 103 members, 2 candidates and 1 guest, Mike Hayden, g/o GERRY MAYFIELD. The lone birthday boy was PETER SCHIEFERDECKER, 89.

**-Program:Today's speaker:** JOHN DE CSEPEL invited us to stick around to hear Gideon Fountain on "Real Estate: What Works, What Doesn't" (see below). **-Next week's speaker:** ARTO SZABO previewed Marianne Szegdy-Maszak (see below).

**-Volunteers:** DOUG FRANCEFORT reported only 468 volunteer hours by 54 men to outside agencies, and 123 hours to RMA activities. DOUG himself had the most hours – 50.

**-Tennis:** RALPH VIGGIANO said that NICKY ACHIWA and MIKE WARNER tied on Court 1, and on Court 2 JIM HIMES and RALPH himself were the winners. Captain next week ERF PORTER.

**-Walkers:** TAD LARRABEE advised the walking group will walk tomorrow.

**THIS WEEK'S SPEAKER** was **Gideon Fountain**, licensed Greenwich realtor for 28 years. He told us cautionary tales about overpricing your house; how to prepare your home for sale; when and why to reduce your selling price, and answered many questions very knowledgeably.

### **SPECIAL EVENTS**

*Checks are to be made payable to RMA. Events are open to all members, their ladies, candidates and guests.*

**March 13: New York Simulation Center; Lunch at Coppolas East:** 16 places open \$85/person. Leaving St. Catherine's at 8:15 a.m.

**April 17: Norman Rockwell Museum; Lunch at Red Lion Inn:** 8 places open \$80/person. Leaving St. Catherine's 8:00am

**May 22: Goodspeed – Damn Yankees; Lunch at Gelston House.** 18 places open \$114/person. Leaving St. Catherine's 9:30am. Special events RICH LIMBACHER 531-9515 or GERRY LESSUK 698-9451.

### **NEXT WEEK**

"I Kiss Your Hands Many Times; Hearts, Souls and Wars in Hungary" told by **Marianne Szegedy-Maszak** whose book recounts her family's experiences in pre- and post-World War Two Europe and how it has shaped her life ever since.

George Stockbridge, Scribe of the Day

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