



# CIGAR BOX BULLETIN

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



[www.greenwichrma.org](http://www.greenwichrma.org)

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*"The word "listen" contains the same letters as the word "silent."*

Alfred Brendel

With a full agenda ahead, President **JERRY SCHWENDEMAN** pleaded, cajoled, threatened and finally enticed the members to open the meeting at 10:01am. **BOB MORGAN** led the Pledge and **JACK SWEGER** conducted the song fest with **JIM SANTORA** at the piano. We sang "This Land is Your Land", "It Had to be You," and "Tie a Yellow Ribbon Round the Old Oak Tree." With **RUSS HARDEN** standing by as Mentor **GEOFFREY BURGE** told the tale of an ardent fisherman who found that his wife was also fishy.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Returnees: **JIM DEAN** and **JIIM BOARDMAN** from Jamaica.

Visiting: **MICHAEL AMBROSINO** informed us that **RALPH VIGGIANO** was released from Greenwich Hospital on Monday and is recuperating at home.

**MICHAEL**, wearing a Dodgers baseball shirt, publicized the RMA trip to the induction ceremony for Derek Jeter at the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown on July 26, 2020. See **MICHAEL** for details.

**TONY COCCHI** told us that the second ROMEO lunch would be held at Zody's, 451 Stillwater Road in Stamford on Monday, Feb. 24 at 1:00pm.

**BOB FRISHMAN** advertised the Lions Club Annual Breakfast at Old Greenwich Civic Center on Sat. March 14, 8:00am to 12:00 noon. Door prizes, a bake sale and Pediatric Eye Screening are featured. \$10pp, \$2 discount for children 6-11 and free for kids 5 and under.

**JERRY SCHWENDEMAN** announced that there is a memorial lunch today for recently deceased **DICK RADCLIFFE** at Riverside Yacht Club. Next week **PETER SCHIEFFERDECKER** will deliver the memorial at the RMA meeting.

## COMMITTEES

This week's program: **PETER UHRY** urged all to stay for a talk by Katie DeLuca, Director of Planning and Zoning for Greenwich.

Next week's Program: **HOLLISTER STURGES** announced that Fred Camillo, First Selectman of Greenwich, would address the RMA.

Membership: **HORST TEBBE** gave the attendance figures; 75 members, 1 candidate and 2 guests for a total of 78. Guests were Bertrand De Frondeville, g/o **ART STAMPLEMAN** and Hernando Madero, g/o **BILL FEATHERSTON**. The birthday boys were **WAYNE DEVRIES**, 77, **TOM McGUIRE**, 93, **RICK WOLFF**, 75. **PETER SCHIEFFERDECKER**, 95, and **RANDY MOTLAND**, 85.

Candidate Pat MacCarthy was presented for membership by **CHARLIE ADAMS** and **ART STAMPLEMAN**. Pat is a graduate of Cornell and has an MBA from the Wharton School. He trained for the Navy Nuclear Program and served aboard the USS Nautilus, the Enterprise and the Coontz and is a Vietnam Veteran. He worked as mortgage banker for several firms and is married with three children. A resounding "Aye" confirmed **PAT** as a member.

Volunteers: **PETER STERN** totaled the hours as 297 outside by 34 members and 152 inside by 25 members. Top RMA member was **HOLLISTER STURGES** with 38 hours. **PETER** also gave a shout out for the 22 Melody Men who accumulated 918 hours over 15 performances under the Direction of **TOM HEALY** and Musical Director **BOB MORGAN** during their Fall schedule for 2019-2020.

Human Interest: **CHET RISIO** introduced **ALAN GUNZBURG** and his guide dog, Kili. Affected by Retinitis Pigmentosa in his 30s, **ALAN** has relied on guide dogs for most of his adult life. He gave a brief view of the importance of well-trained dogs like Kili in helping **ALAN** negotiate hazards like street crossings. Kili has mastered complex situations like moving cars and overhead obstacles. **ALAN** cautioned that guide dogs are not pets and should not be approached as such. Even at RMA meetings when Kili appears to be dozing that dog is working.

## GAMES OF THE RMA

Bridge: **TONY COCCHI** dealt the scores with two slams; one by the two **RONs**, **MURRAY** and **FRIEDMAN** and the other by **ANDRZEJ MAZUREK** and **ED MASTOLINI**. Top scores were **RON MURRAY**, 3490, **MARTIN WAINE**, 3480 and **ANDRZEJ MAZUREK**, 3460.

Hearts: **GRANT PERKINS** reported there were two tables with eight players. Winners were **JACK SWEGER (2) GRANT PERKINS (2)** and **PETER STERN**. Moon shots: **JACK SWEGER (2) GRANT PERKINS (2)** plus **JOHN KNIGHT** and **JOE DOWLING**. Next week's captain is **GEORGE DIPPY**.

Tennis: **GEOFFREY BURGE** totaled the winners in the final round for Feb. 14: on court one: **RALPH NEWITTER/GEOFFREY BURGE** over **TOM HEALY/BOBGRAYSON**. On court two: **ANDRZEJ MAZUREK/RANDY MOTLAND** over **MIKE SMITH/MICHAEL AMBROSINO**. Next week's captain is **GERRY GIBIAN**.

Tai chi: **WILL MORRISON** said the Monday and Wednesday meetings are still on.

### **SPECIAL EVENTS**

The NY Philharmonic Open Rehearsal on March 12, featuring the ballet music, concert version, from Stravinsky's Petruskha and the Piano Concerto #3 by Sergei Rachmaninov. Lunch at Café Fiorello, \$105pp. Bus departs St. Catherine's at 8:00am. Status; 2 openings. **GERRY LESSUK**, 203 698-9451.

Good Speed Opera House "South Pacific", May 21 (originally April 23) Lunch at Gelston House, \$130pp. Bus departs St. Catherine's (TBD) Status; open. **MAURICE KROHN**.

### **TODAY'S SPEAKER**

**PETER UHRY** introduced Katie DeLuca. Director of Planning and Zoning for the Town of Greenwich, who spoke on "Implementing the Plan of Conservation and Development". Ms. DeLuca addressed the desires of a town of 60,000 to embrace development yet maintain its unique characteristics. She outlined several points of concern.

Provide top quality educational facilities, sustain and improve natural landscapes, maintain economic vitality and thriving commercial content and provide best quality infrastructural municipal facilities, cultural institutions and health services. These aims run into the conflicting desires of the town. That is, the need to keep pace with the modern, ever changing world and the hope of avoiding becoming a crowded metropolis. As an example of municipal complications Ms. DeLuca said the town's effort to add green spaces along the Post road corridor runs into state owned properties which are off limit to change by the town.

In the Q and A session New Rochelle and Stamford were cited as examples of over development. The general response was to limit development and maintain status quo.

## NEXT WEEK'S SPEAKER

Fred Camillo, First Selectman of Greenwich, on "Greenwich's Future; A Vision for the Next Decade

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### RMA 2020 Calendar

Weekly Repetitive Activities			
Date	Time	Activity	Location
Mondays	3:00 to 4:00	Tai Chi Beginner	Greenwich Sr. Center
Tuesdays	10:00 am	Platform Tennis	Loughlin Ave. Courts, Cos Cob
Wednesdays	10:00am to 11:00 am	RMA Weekly Meeting	First Presbyterian Church, One West Putnam Ave., Greenwich CT
Wednesdays	1:00 to 3:00 pm	Hearts	Greenwich Civic Ctr. 90 Harding Road, Old Greenwich
Wednesdays	3:00 to 4:00	Tai Chi Advanced	Greenwich Sr. Center
Wednesdays	1:00 to 3:00 pm	Bridge	Greenwich YMCA
Thursdays	9:00 AM	RMA Walking	Various TBD
Fridays	1:30pm to 3:00 pm	Indoor Tennis	Old Greenwich Tennis Academy
RMA Special Events			
February 24	1:00 pm	ROMEO Luncheon	Zody's 19 <sup>th</sup> Hole, Stamford
March 12	8:00 am	Open Rehearsal NY Philharmonic	Lincoln Center, NYC
May 21	8:00 am	South Pacific	Goodspeed Opera House
July 26	To Be Announced	Baseball Hall of Fame Induction Trip	Cooperstown, NY
December 7	To Be Announced	West Point vs. Air Force	West Point, NY