

# CIGAR BOX BULLETIN

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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

"Where is thy learning? Hath thy toil o'er books consum'd the midnight oil?"

(John Gay 1688-1732)

RMA's weekly meeting started at 10am sharp with BOB BISHOP leading the pledge and TOM HEALY leading the singing of: *God Bless America, You Made Me Love You* followed by a duet by lead singer HEALY and BOB MORGAN of *Baby It's Cold Outside*. (Note: Supposedly the two were back by popular demand. They may have been but they also proved once again that it isn't easy to play the piano, sing on key, read music and share a microphone when both individuals are over 57years of age.) BOB MORGAN was on the piano. Corresponding Secretary JOHN HARRIS shared some humor about the meaning of "fortification." Then RMA President BOB PHILLIPS began announcements.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

(1.) BOB PHILLIPS (he actually made this announcement on Feb 18 but it was not posted in the CBB) had heard from Fairfield House about an illegally parked car. For the record, a silver Lexus, allegedly owned by an RMA member, was reported parked at 52 Lafayette Place (Fairfield House) on February 11, 2015. The car's owner apparently snubbed the FH Superintendent when confronted about parking in violation of the housing complex's rules. Members are reminded that such behavior not only brings discredit on the individual exhibiting the behavior and but also on the entire RMA. Cars should be parked only in legal parking spaces. (2.) LISA FARROW invited everyone to view the Icons of the Civil Rights Movement art show running now until March 31 at the Round Hill Community Church. The New York Times (02/22/15) praised the creative nature of the exhibit. The weekday show hours are from 9am to 3pm and both weekend days from 11am to 2pm. ([www.roundhillcommunitychurch.org](http://www.roundhillcommunitychurch.org)). (3.) RALPH VIGGIANO alerted all that a free Prostate Cancer Education Forum is being held the first Monday of each month at Greenwich Hospital. The next gathering will be Monday March 2 from 6:30-8:00pm in the Noble Conference Center. (4.) JIM SANTORA asks everyone wishing to donate food to the Neighbor-To-Neighbor spring drive to bring dried and canned food items to next Wednesday's meeting. 5. BOB PHILLIPS announced BOB WYLIE and BOB MORGAN had returned from Florida.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Visiting:** CHUCK STANDARD stated that HORST TEBBE has pneumonia but is improving. **Program:** JOHN deCSEPEL, announced that today ARNOLD STANCELL would present “Energy Issues: Is OPEC Raining On U.S. Oil Independence Parade And Can The U.S. Help Europe With Natural Gas?” ARNOLD is Turner Professor of Chemical Engineering, Emeritus at Georgia Tech, has had a 31-year career at Mobil Oil and has 11 patents. STEVE MYERS announced that next week, Dr. Maureen Raymo from Columbia University’s Lamont Doherty Earth Observatory, would speak about climate change and how it impacts ocean levels. Her remarks will be entitled: Rising Seas, The Past as Prologue. **Membership:** JIM FAHY came forward to advise us that 110 Members were present along with 3 candidates for membership and 2 guests: Gerry Gibian, guest of BOB PHILLIPS and Rich McStravick, guest of BILL DYNAN. The **birthday boys** were RANDY MOTLAND 80, PAUL MULLER 94, MEL MARGULIS 87 and BILL McANDREWS 76. **Volunteer Hours:** MIKE HAYDEN stated that for the week ending 2/25/15, there were 429 hours reported for outside agencies by 56 RMA members and 126 hours reported for RMA activities by 31 members. The person reporting the most hours was BOB ROBINS with 25 hours.

## FUN AND GAMES

**Bridge:** KURT SCHAFFIR reported that 8 players were present at last week’s bridge game; MARTY WAINE was first with 4070 points, GRANT PERKINS was next with 4050 followed by ROBERT ZIPF with 2650. **Tennis:** RALPH VIGGIANO reported the winners for tennis play on Friday Feb 20. Court #1 winners were PETE UHRY and MIKE WARNER and Court #2 winners were MIKE SMITH and RALPH VIGGIANO. Leader VIGGIANO will be Captain again on Feb 27.

## TODAY’S PROGRAM

With 153 members and guests in attendance, ARNOLD STANCELL shared his views on what is happening in the petroleum industry today and what to expect in the future. His four key conclusions were: 1) Oil will likely remain close to \$50/B during 2015 unless OPEC changes its marketing position. 2) While the USA has lowered its percentage of oil imported to 39% from 60% in 2008, it will still have to continue importing oil for the foreseeable future. 3) While oil company earnings will remain depressed in 2015, other industries will benefit from lower oil pricing. 4) The high cost of shipping oil and natural gas makes exporting either product overseas uneconomical. As always, ARNOLD presented insightful information in an area of business he is very familiar with. The Q&A session added to the excellent presentation.

## SPECIAL EVENTS

*Open to all members, guests, candidates and spouses; checks should be made out to the RMA.*

RICH LIMBACHER announced:

Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory- March 19, 2015. \$ 50.00 per person, including lunch at the Observatory. Bus leaves St. Catherine's at 9:00 am. Status: Currently wait-listed

Goodspeed Theater-May 28, 2015. The musical *Guys and Dolls*. \$ 115 per person, including lunch at Gelston House. Bus leaves St. Catherine's at 10 am. Status: wait-listed.

Tanglewood/Boston Symphony – Sunday August 9, 2015. Cost TBD, including lunch at the Apple Tree Inn. Bus will leave Eastern Civic Center at 9am. Status: Open

For more details and to sign up, contact GERRY LESSUK [gerrless@att.net](mailto:gerrless@att.net) 203 698-9541 or RICH LIMBACHER [limbacher29@verizon.net](mailto:limbacher29@verizon.net) 203 531-9515.

Visit the RMA's website at [www.greenwichrma.org](http://www.greenwichrma.org).

*PETE UHRY, humble scribbler of the week*