



CIGAR BOX BULLETIN

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



www.greenwichrma.org

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"Old age is like flying a plane through a storm, once you're on board, there is nothing you can do."
Golda Meir

Trying a new tactic, President **JERRY SCHWENDEMAN** started his "please be seated" plea before the official start time. It took pledge leader **MICHAEL AMBROSINO** to make it happen, and on time. The dynamic duo of **TOM HEALY** and **BOB MORGAN** led with the old standard "God Bless America" and then introduced two seldom-heard tunes, "If Ever I Would Leave You" from *Camelot* and the Bob Dylan favorite "Blowin' in the Wind"

TOM then returned to the podium as Corresponding Secretary and told two husband and wife stories, one with a happy ending and the other kind of fishy but very funny.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Returnees: **WAYNE DEVRIES** from Morocco, Dubai and Abu Dhabi, and **GERRY MAYFIELD** from Santa Barbara, CA. Welcome home guys!

2. Visiting: **MICHAEL AMBROSINO** informed us that **RALPH VIGGIANO** is now in hospice care at home. No calls or visits please, email OK.

3. **MICHAEL** also offered for sale an RMA fleece, size XL for \$20, last one.

4. **TONY COCCHI** reported that 24 RMAers attended the ROMEO at Zody's. See photo below Retired Old Men Eating Out, enough said! The next luncheon will be Asian Buffet at a date and place to be named soon. Host is **BILL FEATHERSTONE**.



5. A very tired **JACK CUFF**, who is the go-to guy for sending out the CBB and other notices to the membership by email remarked that after being a one-man band for a long time, he now has recruited two members who will be helping him with this important task, **CARL WHITE** and **LEN CARUSI**. A big "thank you" to **CARL** and **LEN**.

6. **TAD LARRABEE** encouraged all to attend the March 14 at 4:00 concert of the Greenwich Choral Society at the Performing Arts Center at Greenwich High School. It is an all-Beethoven concert in honor of Ludwig's 250th birthday.

7. **TAD** then doffed his hat to **CHET RISIO** who has been managing the Member Profile and Human-Interest Story programs. **CHET** is ready to retire and has passed the baton to **JACK WEIR**. Thank you for stepping up **JACK**. **TAD** encouraged all to check the Profiles and Human-

Interest Stories on our website www.GreenwichRMA.com and prepare one for sharing with other members.

8. **GEORGE STOCKBRIDGE** opined that *All Would Be Well that Ends Well* after the Shakespeare Group watches the film *Kiss Me Kate* based on the Bard's *The Taming of the Shrew* at **KEITH SMITH's** house, 37 Jones Park Drive, on March 4 at 1:15pm.

9. **DOUG TAYLOR** related some disturbing stories regarding falls by his wife and himself and subsequent encounters with the health care system. He strongly recommended the use of "fall monitors" (Life Line and the like) and also a DNR (do not resuscitate) bracelet if that is your choice.

10. **STEVE MARINO** conducted a survey of member listening habits of WGCH radio.

MEMORIAL

PETER SCHIEFERDECKER eulogized **DICK RADCLIFFE** who died on January 27 at age 95. **DICK**, a Washington DC native, was a graduate of Yale University and a US Army Officer who served in the ETO in WW II.

Returning to civilian life he became a pioneer in the hedge fund industry eventually starting his own firm in Greenwich. **DICK** and wife Mary were supporters of the arts in Greenwich, serving on the board of the Greenwich Symphony and endowed the Perrot Library children's wing. He became a member of the RMA in 1996. He is survived by his wife Mary, four sons and their spouses and six grandchildren.

COMMITTEES

Program: **PETER BERG** upfronted both this week's speaker, First Selectman, Fred Camillo on his 10-Year Vision for Greenwich and next week's speaker Amy Siebert, Commissioner of Public Works on the future of Public Works in Greenwich. Two interesting and vital talks.

Membership: **PETER STERN** pinch hit for **HORST TEBBE** this week. He did the numbers well and only tripped lightly on name pronunciation.

Attendance: 82 members 2 guests: Hernando Madero guest of **BILL FEATHERSTONE** and Bertrand Defrondeville guest of **ARTHUR STAMPLEMAN**.

There was only one birthday, **GERRY FRIEDMAN** who turned 85. Happy Natal Day **GERRY!**

Volunteers: It was **ROS CURTIS's** turn to report the hours which he did with vigor. Outside: 419 hrs. by 110 men, RMA: 110 hrs. by 23. High man **KEATING HAGMANN** with 103 accumulated hours.

Special Events: S.E. presented a three-man tag-team. **DON CONWAY** announced that 1) The Botanical Garden trip has been cancelled, and 2) updated South Pacific. **GERRY LESSUK** gave the latest notes on the NY Philharmonic rehearsal and **MICHAEL AMBROSINO** batted out the details of the Baseball Hall of Fame/Derek Jeter installation trip. Details below.

RMA PLAYERS

Bridge: There was no report this week.

Hearts: **GEORGE DIPPY** dealt up the details: with eight players. Winners were **JOHN STANKUNAS** (3) **ANDY HOLMES** (2) **GEORGE DIPPY**, **TOM HEALY**, **JOE DOWLING** and **JIM DEAN** Moon shots: **JOE DOWLING** (3) **TOM HEALY** (2) **JIM DEAN** and **JOHN STANKUNAS**. Next week's captain is **JACK WEIR**.

Tennis: **MICHAEL AMBROSINO** served up the winners: On court 1: **GEOFF BURGE** and **ANDRZEJ MAZUREK**. On court 2: **GERRY GIBIAN** and **MICHAEL AMBROSINO**. Next week's captain - **BOB GRAYSON**.

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

Platform Tennis: **JIM DEAN** reported that last week 8 players completed 7 sets on 2 courts. Always room for more players.

Pickleball: **TONY COCCHI** reported that courts have been reserved for the spring season starting in April. There is an issue concerning equipment that *will* be solved before the first serve of the season.

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

Fred Camillo, the newly elected First Selectman shared his vision for Greenwich with the RMA and its guests. He started by listing some of the Town's assets, first of which is its waterline, followed by its land mass, the largest community in Connecticut, the civic spirit of its population and its accessibility to New York City. His talk mostly outlined ongoing or potential projects to make Greenwich an even more attractive community. In terms of the waterfront development he cited a planned study to renovate Roger Sherman Baldwin Park, the development of a single story parking facility near the park with a "green" roof, a walkway from the Bruce Museum to the parking/park area, and removal of the DPW parking garage on the water in Cos Cob. On Greenwich Avenue he suggested repurposing or renovating the old Town Hall, now the senior/arts center and the Board of Ed building and finding a way to connect the avenue to the waterfront. He discussed Greenwich Plaza, i.e. the block of buildings that include the train station and Railroad Avenue. Other challenges he highlighted were use of police personnel for controlling traffic on Greenwich Avenue vs cops on the beat, cost of recycling, town-wide, and the deficit at the Nathaniel Witherell. A spirited RMA Q&A followed.

NEXT WEEK'S SPEAKER

Amy Siebert -Commissioner of Public works

"Greenwich Public Works: What Does the Future Hold?"

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Visit our website at www.greenwichrma.org

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			
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
June 11	To Be Announced	Day At The Races	Belmont Park, Elmont NY
December 7	To Be Announced	West Point vs. Air Force	West Point, NY