

CIGAR BOX BULLETIN

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

www.greenwichrma.org

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"A preposition is nothing to end a sentence with"
Winston Churchill

President **TAD LARRABEE** opened the meeting promptly at 10 am. The pledge of allegiance to the American flag was led by **MICHAEL AMBROSINO**. **JIM SANTORA** led us in singing *This Land is Your Land, When Irish Eyes are Smiling* and *Moon River*. **BOB CAREY** related a droll story about an atheist about to be attacked by a grizzly bear. The man promptly was heard to shout out "Oh My God!"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TAD LARRABEE announced the sad news that **BRUNO SCHRAGE'S** wife died on March 8.

TAD LARRABEE said the walking group had a nice walk last week at Greenwich Point. Anyone wishing to join the walking group should speak to **TAD**. **STEVE BOIES** told us about the upcoming Chamber Players concert, see www.greenwichsymphony.org for upcoming events. **JOE MANCINELLI** explained that one of his favorite volunteer activities is working with the Reading Partners of Stamford, where you partner with young children to help them refine their reading skills. Anyone interested can contact **JOE** for further details. **TAD LARRABEE** touted the next concert of the Greenwich Choral Society which is on Saturday, April 6 at the Performing Arts Center, Greenwich High School. Go online at www.GreenwichChoralSociety.org or call 203-622-5136 for tickets.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PROGRAM: **HOLLISTER STURGES** reported that today's speaker will be Silvia Reiss discussing *The Stone Walls of New England*. Next week's speaker: **BOB PHILLIPS** advised us that **Kevin Gutzman**, Professor of History at WCSU, will speak on *Thomas Jefferson – Revolutionary: A Radical's Struggle to Remake America*.

MEMBERSHIP: **HORST TEBBE** explained that there were 87 members plus one candidate. The guest was Joe Boldt, guest of **RUSS HARDEN**. Celebrating birthdays this week were **DON BREISMEISTER 77**, **FRANK ZAVATTARO 87**, **LOU TROVATO 79**, **BILL HOWLAND 78**, **JOHN FEBLES 75**, **MILES MCDONALD 81**, and **MICHAEL ROSS 76**. There were no inductees.

GAMES PEOPLE PLAY

INDOOR TENNIS: **MICHAEL AMBROSINO** requested a \$100 deposit from tennis players in order to secure two courts for next season. Checks should be payable to OGTA and given to **MICHAEL** at the meeting or mailed to him. He needs a total of \$800 to reserve the courts. **MICHAEL** advised that thanks to **MIKE SMITH**, we secured Friday, May 10, 2019 at the RYC at 12:30 pm for our annual tennis luncheon; cost about \$35 p/p. Since May 10th coincides with Mother's Day weekend, he decided it would be a nice gesture to invite the wives to the luncheon. **MICHAEL** said email invitations were sent out last week. Please reply promptly.

BRIDGE: **RON FRIEDMAN** reported there were 8 players. Top score of 3,680 was by **PETER STERN**. Coming in at 3,390 was **KURT SCHAFFIR** and close behind with 3,380 was **ANDRZEJ MAZUREK**.

TENNIS: Preliminary Round on Court 1 was won by **DON BREISMEISTER** and **PETER ORBANOWSKI**. Court 2 winners were **JOE MANCINELLI** and **GERRY GIBIAN**. In the final round, the Court 1 winners were **JOE MANCINELLI** and **PETER ORBANOWSKI**. Court 2 winners were Susie Orbanowski (substitute) and **ROBERT GRAYSON**. Next week's captain is **RON FRIEDMAN**.

HEARTS: **TOM HEALY** told us that there were 8 players at 2 tables. Table 1 had three games played. Winners were **JOHN KNIGHT**, **PETER BERG** and **TOM HEALY**. Moon shots were made by **PETER BERG** and **TOM HEALY**. At table 2 there were two games played. The winners were **MICHAEL AMBROSINO** and **JOHN STANKUNAS**. No moon shots.

WILL MORRISON, on behalf of Greenwich Senior Center, asked that **TAL CHI** walkers renew their 3-month subscription by April 1. Ten persons are required for the class to continue. The cost remains at \$5.00 for the three months.

SPECIAL EVENTS:

ABBEY SMOLER announced that the next event will be at the newly **restored Bush Holly House Museum on Thursday March 28**. Drive yourself, \$25 p/p.

The Cloisters on Thursday May 2, \$105 p/p. Cost is \$105 pp. Lunch is at the New Leaf Cafe. Bus leaves from St Catherine Church parking lot at 9:00 a.m.

NOTE: For information regarding the Bush Holly House and/or The Cloisters events, please contact **HOLLISTER STURGES** at hollistersturges@aol.com

VOLUNTEER HOURS: **MICHAEL AMBROSINO** reported that 351 outside hours were reported by 38 members, and 143 inside hours by 38 RMA members. The member reporting the most hours was **TAD LARRABEE** with 36 hours.

TODAY'S SPEAKER

Today's speaker was Mrs. Silvia Reiss a recorder and collector of 17th and 18th century stone walls, with an emphasis on the walls of Connecticut. She is a retired teacher. She told us that after the Revolutionary War, farmers began building walls to mark property boundaries. Engineers built churches, bridges, dams, jails, culverts, and cellar walls. Her focus for today's discussion was on the evolution of free-standing walls in New England. She explained that there are two categories of stone walls. "Dry Walls" that have no mortar between the individual stones and mortared walls or "Wet Walls" made of gneiss, schist and igneous stones and have no limit to how high they can go, although eventually the mortar shrinks and erodes, and ultimately the stones become unaligned. Stone walls are the signature legacy of New England.

NEXT WEEK'S SPEAKER

Kevin Gutzman, Ph.D

Thomas Jefferson – Revolutionary: A Radical's Struggle to Remake America

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