



# CIGAR BOX BULLETIN

**Retired Men's Association of Greenwich, Inc.**

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

This Bulletin is brought to you each week by these volunteers

*Chair/Editor: Chet Risio. Scribes: Av Rivel, Kurt Schaffir, Ed Farrell, Gerry Lessuk, George Stockbridge, Dan Fredland, Tony Cocchi, Joe Mancinelli. On leave: Arnold Gordon, Steve Elliott, Marshall Toppo. Archivist: Harold Frost. Format: Jack Cuff, Andrzej Mazurek, Gene Schwartz. Graphics: Av Rivel. Print/Distribution: Chet Risio*

**Volume 65, Number 44, March 14, 2018**  
**Scribe: ED FARRELL**

"We are just an advanced breed of monkeys on a minor planet of a very average star. But we can understand the universe. That makes us something very special."

**Stephen Hawking**

President DON CONWAY called the meeting to order and introduced JIM BUTLER to lead us in the Pledge.

With GEORGE STOCKBRIDGE at the piano, JACK SWEGER then led us in singing *America the Beautiful, Ain't She Sweet and Enjoy Yourself*.

BOB CAREY then drew some laughs with a story about some out-of-touch engineers, and BOB LUCE followed with a story about a golfer who negotiated with God for best golf club (or three) and best wife (or three).

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. STEVE BOIES announced the Chamber of the Greenwich Symphony will be in concert at Round Hill Community Church on Sunday, March 18, at 4:00pm and at the Greenwich Arts Council on Monday, March 19, at 7:00pm. The program will feature Peter Reit, Greenwich Symphony's principle horn player. Tickets are \$30/adult and \$5/child.
2. DON CONWAY noted that CRO MARTIN is at home recovering from a heart attack and can be reached at 203-253-1400.
3. PETER UHRY said a mentors meeting is to be held immediately following today's RMA meeting in our meeting room. BOB LUCE announced that the Greenwich Choral Society will hold a concert featuring Mozart's Mass in C minor at 4:00pm Saturday, March 17, at the Performing Arts Center at Greenwich High School.
4. VISITING: WAYNE WRIGHT told members that NICK MECCA has been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. NICK can be reached 203-637-0058

## COMMITTEES

**PROGRAM:** HOLLISTER STURGES announced today's speaker will be Lou Del Bianco, who will discuss the role his grandfather, Luigi Del Bianco, played in bringing Mt. Rushmore to life. BOB ROBINS noted that next week's speaker will be Meg Tocantins, a certified hypnotist, who will discuss how medical hypnosis can serve patients.

**MEMBERSHIP:** HORST TEBBE reported 89 members present at today's meeting. HORST recognized nine birthday boys: DAVE WEISBROD (71); MIKE RYAN (80); ROS CURTIS (94); DON BREISMEISTER (76); JOHN FEBLES (74); BILL HOWLAND (77); LOU CHIAPPETTA (98); MICHAEL ROSS (75); CHET RISIO (90).

**VOLUNTEER HOURS:** MIKE HAYDEN reported 40 men donated 426 hours to outside agencies, and 26 men reported 179 volunteer hours for the RMA. MIKE AMOROSO had the most hours for the week (50).

## FUN AND GAMES

**BRIDGE:** The winners on February 28 were: MARTIN WAYNE (2350); RON FRIEDMAN (1990); JOHN FEBLES (1330).

**TENNIS;** ANDRZEJ MAZUREK announced the winners of last week's contests were PETER ORBANOWSKI and RANDY MOTLAND on court #1. On court #2 RON FRIEDMAN and ANDRZEJ MAZUREK tied with PETER UHRY and BILL FAKUNDINY.

### TODAY'S SPEAKER

Luigi Del Bianco was the chief carver on the Mt. Rushmore monument. CHET RISIO, a longtime friend of the Del Bianco family, introduced us to Luigi's grandson, Lou Del Bianco, who regaled RMA members and guests with a very personal and inspiring recollection of his grandfather's life as a major carver of works in Italy and the United States. Mr. Del Bianco recounted the difficulties and prejudices his grandfather faced during the eight years he labored on the Mt. Rushmore project, as well as the bureaucratic challenges he and his family encountered in seeking the ultimately successful recognition for his grandfather's work. Mr. Del Bianco's presentation was not only educational, but highly entertaining, and clearly delivered from the heart. Mr. Del Bianco recently published a book, *Out of Rushmore's Shadow*, which addresses in more detail his grandfather's life and work.

### SPECIAL EVENTS

Open to all members, guests, candidates and spouses. Checks to be made out to RMA, and must be received within two weeks or the reservation will be cancelled. Contact MIKE FERRARESE ([myagentmike@yahoo.com](mailto:myagentmike@yahoo.com) / 203-554-0678) or ABBEY SMOLER ([abbeysmoler@gmail.com](mailto:abbeysmoler@gmail.com) / 203-531-0235)

**Bruce Museum**, March 22, 2018, Lunch at the Millbrook Club, \$95. Transportation: Self. Arrive at Bruce Museum at 9:45 a.m. Status: 16 places available

**West Point tour**, April 19, 2018. Lunch at the Thayer Hotel, \$85. Bus departs 8:45am from St. Catherine's' Church parking lot. Status: 5 openings

**Botanical Gardens**, lunch at Mario's Restaurant on Arthur Ave., May 24, \$105pp. Bus departs St. Catherine's at 8:45am. Status: 31 places open.

**Belmont Race Track**. Thursday, June 14, 2018. Lunch: Buffet in Belmont Room. Cost: \$85.00. Bus leaves St. Catherine's at 10:30 AM. Status: 24 openings.

### NEXT WEEK'S SPEAKER

Next week the RMA will welcome: **Meg Tocantins**: How Medical Hypnosis Can Serve Patients.

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## RMA NOMINEES

For Officers, Board Members and Standing Committees, May 1, 2018

Candidates to be presented to the full membership, March 21, 2018

Candidates to be voted on by full membership, March 28, 2018

OFFICERS	NOMINEES	NOMINEE FROM THE FLOOR
President	Tad Larrabee	
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Jerry Schwendeman	
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Russ Harden	
3 <sup>rd</sup> Vice President	Mike Ambrosino	
Treasurer	Wayne DeVries	
Recording Secretary	Jim Fishbein	

### BOARD MEMBERS

Membership	Horst Tebbe
Programs	Hollister Sturges
Publicity	Jack Cuff
Special Events 1	Abbey Smoler
Special events 2	Mike Ferrarese
Director at Large 1yr	Jack Weir
Director at Large 1yr	Andy Holmes
Past President	Don Conway
Past President	Peter Uhry

### STANDING COMMITTEES

Cigar Box Bulletin	Chet Risio
Volunteers	Peter Stern
Audit	—

### NOMINATING COMMITTEES

Nominating Committee	Bob Robins
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