



CIGAR BOX BULLETIN

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

www.greenwichrma.org

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Archivist: **Harold Frost.** Format: **Jack Cuff, Andrzej Mazurek, Gene Schwartz.** Print/Dist: **Chet Risio**

VOLUME 66 NUMBER 48 APRIL 10, 2019 SCRIBE: GERRY LESSUK

"Competing pressures tempt one to believe that an issue deferred is a problem avoided; more often it is a crisis invented." Henry Kissinger

President **TAD LARRABEE** opened the meeting at the usual hour of 10:00 am and led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Song Leader **TOM HEALY**, with **BOB MORGAN** on the piano, then led the membership in singing *The Star-Spangled Banner, You Must Have Been A Beautiful Baby* and *April Showers*.

TAD mentioned that the Treasurer is **WAYNE DeVRIES**, assisted by **JEFF JUNKER**. It was also noted that annual membership dues of \$100 are due on or before May 1, 2019. Payments would be appreciated before the May 1st date! **RUSS HARDEN** was serving as a mentor of the day.

Corresponding Secretary **JERRY SCHWENDEMAN** advised that this was his final effort in this role as he would be undertaking different duties. He told the tale of a farmer who complained that his pigs were not procreating and sought the counsel of a veterinarian who advised him to try artificial insemination. Not understanding what those words meant, the farmer serviced the pigs himself, much to the delight of the pigs.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Returnees: **RICHARD BARTHOLOMEW** from Jupiter, Florida, and **JOHN STANKUNAS** from Zimbabwe, South Africa and Botswana.

Visiting: **MICHAEL AMBROSINO** visited with **RALPH VIGGIANO** who is receiving chemotherapy and other medications which caused him to temporarily lose his voice, making personal visits awkward. **RALPH** would like to receive emails from fellow RMA members. His email address is bid2clubs@optonline.net.

Meals on Wheels: **BRIAN MAHER** notes that they are still looking for drivers to deliver meals. Those interested in volunteering for this worthwhile activity can sign up on a sheet on the bulletin board.

Greenwich High School Tour: **BOB RIMMER** confirmed that RMA membership was interested in participating in a program for touring Greenwich High School offered by Ralph Mayo, interim superintendent of Greenwich Schools. **BOB** will set up a program which will involve meeting with the Headmaster of the High School and touring seven different classrooms. This will take place on May 13th starting at 9:00 am for about 2 1/2 hours.

Tai Chi Walk: **WILL MORRISON** advised that the Greenwich Senior Center is offering another three months of Tai Chi Walk at \$10. This activity will improve your balance. If interested, see **WILL** for details.

COMMITTEES

Programs: This week's speaker, Julie Jason, was introduced by **ARNOLD GORDON**. Ms. Jason has a 30+ year career in law and finance, starting off as a lawyer on Wall Street and branching off into Money Management. She has authored three award-winning books on managing wealth and has been writing a syndicated column on money management that recently reached 1,000 in number. Her talk will center on managing wealth.

HOLLISTER STURGES said that next week's speaker will be a return engagement by the comedian Jane Condon who will talk about life in Greenwich.

Volunteer hours: For the week ending today, **DON HERMANN** reported that there were 349 outside hours by 38 members and 77 inside hours by 23 members. Top RMA member hours went to **PETER BERG** with 37 hours.

Membership: As reported by **ED FARRELL**, there were in attendance of 103 members, three candidates, and four guests - Dan Rotzien, g/o **ROS CURTIS**; Lou Rupnik, g/o **MICHAEL AMBROSINO**; James Dean, g/o **JIM BOARDMAN**; and Ralph Newsletter, g/o of **BOB GRAYSON** and **GERRY GIBIAN**. Happy birthday was extended to **MIKE FERRARESE**, 76, **SAULY BUCHSBAUM**, 91, **MARTY WAINE** 86, **GEORGE UBOGY**, 81, **HENRY BAKER**, 88, and **JOE ROE**, 88.

Special events: Full details of the events set forth below were covered by **MIKE FARRERESE**. See details below.

HUMAN INTEREST SERIES

The fierce battles of World War II in the Pacific Ocean area hold bitter memories. The relentless island-hopping campaign to get within bombing range of mainland Japan cost many lives on both sides. **GERRY GIBIAN** gave his perspective on some of the battle sites. **GERRY** was invited by the World War II Museum, located in New Orleans, to tour some of the battle sites. He went on the tour with 100 other persons including 10 living

veterans of the battle of Iwo Jima. He visited the following areas: Pearl Harbor on the Hawaiian Island of Oahu where the Pacific fleet had been harbored, and which had been attacked by the Japanese Air Force; Guam which had been attacked at the same time as Pearl Harbor; Saipan and Tinian which were conquered in order to build airplane runways for the bombing of mainland Japan; and Iwo Jima where a group of Marines, in a famous photo, raised the American Flag in one of the last battles in the Pacific.

FUN AND GAMES

Bridge: **JOHN FEBLES** announced that seven players were involved, and the three highest scorers were **ANDRZEJ MAZUREK** with 5,170, **BRUNO SCHRAGE** with 3,670, and **RON FRIEDMAN** with 3,190.

Tennis: Winners on Court 1 were **TOM HEALY** and **TOM GRAYSON**; Winners on Court 2 were **DON BREISMEISTER** and **GEOFFREY BURGE**.

Hearts: Three tables were occupied, and the following were the winners: **GRANT PERKINS** (2), **JACK WEIR** (3), **TOM HEALY** (2), **JACK SWEGER** (1). Moon Shots were achieved by **GRANT PERKINS** (2), **TOM HEALY** (3), **JOHN WEIR** (2), **JACK SWEGER** (1) and **MICHAEL AMBROSINO** (1). Next week's captain is **RICK HOLZ**.

Golf: On a rather cold day for playing golf, **PAUL CAMPION** reported the following individual achievements: Closest to the pin on hole #7 was **JOHN AWDZIEWICZ**; Closest to the pin on #15 was **GEOFFREY BURGE**; The longest drive on #17 was **JOE MANCINELLI**.

Pickleball: **JOHN KNIGHT** said that Pickleball began last week. It is held outdoors on Loughlin Street in downtown Cos Cob. It takes place every Thursday from 9:00 am to 11:00 am. All players and spectators are welcome.

TODAY'S SPEAKER

Julie Jason has titled her talk *Managing Retirement Wealth in Good Times and Bad*. Wealth was described as more than money. According to Ms. Jason, wealth assets would also include family, friendships and lifestyles. For the money assets, start accumulating early (age 25) by maximizing 401K plans; by saving 10% of your earnings; by investing aggressively, especially in down times; by letting investments grow and not touching them. At mid-life (age 45), keep saving and investing, and look into Roth IRA's, 529 plans and brokerage plans. Making a will is important since State Laws may contradict an individual's intestate's intentions. The transition to retirement (age 65) creates different needs. Cash flow is as important as organizing assets into a portfolio. Look into portfolio management expertise which can assist in allocating assets into a variety of investments and balancing investments to cover the contingencies of bull and bear markets.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Open to all members, spouses, candidates, and guests. Checks should be made out to the RMA and must be received within two weeks following the making of the reservation(s) or the reservation will be canceled. Buses depart from the St. Catherine Church parking lot on Riverside Avenue opposite the Church. Contact persons are listed with each event.

THE CLOISTERS: May 2, 2019, lunch at the New Leaf Cafe, cost \$105, bus departs at 9:00 am. Status: wait list. Contact **HOLLISTER STURGES** at (203)861-2279.

BELMONT RACE TRACK: June 13, 2019, lunch in the Belmont Room where there is a Dress Code requiring jackets and ties, cost \$85, bus departs at 10:30 am, status: 6 places open. Contact **TOM HEALY** (203)661-2954.

BOTANICAL GARDENS: July 11, 2019, lunch at Mario's, cost \$115, bus departs at 8:45 am, status: 26 places open. Contact **MIKE FERRARESE** at 203)554-0678.

NEXT WEEK'S SPEAKER

Comedian **Jane Condon's** talk is titled *Life in Greenwich and Beyond*.
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