

CIGAR BOX BULLETIN

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

www.greenwichrma.org

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The definition of Puritanism: "*The haunting fear that someone, somewhere, may be happy*"

H.L. Mencken

TAD LARRABEE, in the second to last week of his Presidency of a well-served RMA, rang the bell at 10:02 am to summon the faithful. Sans microphone, **TAD**, in booming voice, told all to get moving. **ANDRZEJ MAZUREK** led the Pledge. With **JIM SANTORA** at the piano, **JACK SWEGER** conducted the singing of *God Bless America*, *Sunny Side of the Street* and *Easter Parade* in honor of Easter Sunday. Corresponding Secretary **BOB LUCE** told a joke about a priest, bested by a golf pro, offering the pro the opportunity for his parents to finally be married. The Mentor for the day was **PETER UHRY**.

TAD informed us that David Blight, history professor at Yale, is a forthcoming guest speaker. He has just won the Pulitzer Prize for his biography of Frederick Douglass.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The sound mike was restored in time for these announcements:

Returnees: **STEVE BOIES** from Israel and Jordan, **BOB PHILLIPS** from Macchu Picchu and the Galapagos Islands, Ecuador, **AV RIVEL** from Barcelona, Spain.

Today's Speaker; **DAVID WEISBROD** urged all to stay for Jane Condon, Greenwich's own celebrated comedian.

Next week's speaker: **STEVE MYERS** said Laura Grego will speak on *Space Based Missile Defense: Back to the Future*.

STEVE also mentioned that the League of Women Voters of Greenwich is sponsoring a talk by Professor Peter de Menocal, a paleoclimate scientist at Lamont-Doherty Ocean Observatory. He will be addressing *Climate Risk and Climate Action*. The presentation will be at the Greenwich Library Cole Auditorium on Wed. April 24, at 7:00 pm.

TAD told us that last week's Greenwich Time had an article **honoring RMA's SAL DeANGELO as one the longest serving Red Baron volunteers at Greenwich Hospital. SAL** started serving there in 1993 with 17,000 hours of loyal service. **SAL** was resoundingly applauded for his inspiring dedication.

JOE MANCINELLI recognized all the hard-working members of the CBB (see masthead) who produce the CBB every week. However, with other commitments, these newsmen are not always available. **JOE** said the CBB needs Scribes and Formatters. Please call him 973-886-1798 or jlmanc@optonline.net to sign up.

Human Interests: **CHET RISIO** introduced **TOM McGUIRE** who drew laughter with his tale of a less than responsive and confused bank in a story titled *Mr. McGuire Builds his Dream House in a Perfect Storm*.

DON HERMANN informed us the Mallin Art Tour in Pound Ridge is still on for April 28. For information call **DON** at 203-531-0400 or Staff@unbeatables.com.

ARNOLD GORDON offered his collection of Great Courses VHS tapes to anyone with a VCR. The videos cover history, religion, science, math, etc. If interested, call **ARNOLD** at 203-273-5779 or ajgordo@verizon.net and he will bring them to the next meeting.

TOM HEALY said the Melody Men will perform at Nathaniel Witherell on April 18.

COMMITTEES

Membership: **ED FARRELL** said there were 102 members present with one candidate and two guests for a total 105 in attendance. James Dean was the guest of **JIM BOARDMAN** and **GARY MILLER**. Doug Fields was the guest of **PETER ORBANOWSKI**.

Candidate **DENNIS MONSON** was presented for membership by **ANDRZEJ MAZUREK** and **DON MURRAY**. A retired CPA, Dennis was born in Salt Lake City and resides in Greenwich with his wife Donna. He worked for an international accounting firm, spending several years in San Francisco and Berlin. He enjoys tennis, skiing, golf and chess. **DENNIS** was resoundingly approved for membership.

The **birthday boys** this week were: **GERRY GIBIAN** 81, **MARK MITTLER** 76, **BOB WYLIE** 94, **GERRY LESSUK** 93, **JOSEPH DeVITA** 89, **REID McINTYRE** 87, **AV RIVEL** 83, and **BRIAN MAHER** 78.

Volunteers hours: **RUSS HARDEN** briefed us with 507 outside hours by 48 RMAers and 208 inside hours by 35 members. Two members were listed for top honors: **ALAN GUNZBURG** with 60 hours and **BOB RIMMER** with 44.

Special Events: **ABBEY SMOLER** gave the details. (see below).

GAMES OF THE RMA

Hearts: **RICK HOLZ** said there were 12 players at 3 tables on April 10. Winners with one game each were **PETER BERG, RICK HOLZ, GEORGE DIPPY, GRANT PERKINS, TOM HEALY. JOHN STANKUNAS** won two games won. Single moon shots

were by **JACK SWEGER, PETER BERG, RICK HOLZ, TOM HEALY, JACK WEIR,** with two moon shots each by **JOHN STANKUNAS** and **GRANT PERKINS.**

Bridge: **TONY COCCHI** said there were five players on April 10. **RON MURRAY** came in first with 3890 followed by **TONY COCCHI** at 3590 and **BRUNO SCHRAGE** at 3030. **TONY** lamented that, despite winning two grand slams, one with **BRUNO** and one with **RON**, he still came in second.

Golf: **MIKE RYAN** told us there were 15 players on a sunny, very windy day. Closest to the pin on #7 was **GEOFFREY BURGE** and closest on #15 was **TOM HEALY.** Longest drive by **GRAN BURGESS** who also had the only notable score of 92. **MIKE** advised that he is collecting dues and signing up hosts.

Tennis: **BILL FAKUNDINY** gave the April 12 scores. Winners on court 1 were **DON BREISMEISTER** and **ANDRZEJ MAZUREK.** On court 2 they were **SAM MARASSO** and **MICHAEL AMBROSINO.** Next week's captain is **SAM MARASSO.**

Pickleball: At the Loughlin courts in Cos Cob on Thursdays from 9-11.

Outdoor Tennis: At the Loughlin courts in Cos Cob on Mondays from 9-11.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Open to all members, spouses, candidates and guests. Checks should be made out to RMA and must be received within two weeks of the reservation 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 Café, cost \$105. Bus departs at 9:00 am. Status: wait listed. Contact **HOLLISTER STURGES** at 203-861-2279.

Belmont Race Track: **June 13, 2019,** lunch at the Belmont Room where there is a DRESS CODE requiring coats and ties and suitable attire for women. Cost \$85, bus departs at 10:30 am. Status: Four places open. Contact **TOM HEALY** 203-661-2954

Botanical Gardens: **A Robert Marx exhibit,** July 1, 2019, lunch at Mario's on Arthur Ave., \$115, bus departs at 8:45 am. Status: 26 places open. Contact **MIKE FERRARESE** at 203-554-0678.

TODAY'S SPEAKER

DAVID WEISBROD, labeling himself as a **Jane Condon** groupie, introduced the comedian, a Greenwich resident, who immediately launched into a fast-paced look at raising two sons. "*I have to talk rap to communicate*".

She found that one of her sons was allergic to doctors "*So they took away my son*".

As her sons were growing, they took great pride in showing their prowess in waste elimination shouting "*Mom! You gotta see this!*" She cleverly stopped that by reversing the process. "*Boys! You gotta see THIS!*"

Jane does not have grandchildren and "*I'm thinking of ordering one on Amazon*".

Like most mothers she laments not seeing her sons as often as she would like.
"Embrace marijuana. They'll spend more time with you".

When they do visit, her sons complain she keeps food in the fridge too long. Jane's retort, *"If there's no mold, it ain't old!"*

As the laughs kept up, she told about attending a stuffy business dinner and embarrassing her husband by imitating a chimpanzee, leaping about complete with chimp grunts and high-pitched squeals.

She and her husband had dated for several years and Jane tried to prompt him to *"Like .. maybe, get married...?"* He said, *"I'll think about it."* Some months later he said, *"I think we should get married."* She said, *"Maybe you could be more... romantic?"* He said *"How?"* She said, *"Like get down on your knees?"*

So, he did and asked Jane to marry him. She said, *"I'LL THINK ABOUT IT!"*

NEXT WEEK'S SPEAKER

Dr. Laura Grego, Ph.D., a **senior scientist at the Union of Concerned Scientists**, will address **Space Based Missile Defense: Back to the Future.**

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