



# CIGAR BOX BULLETIN

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

60 Years of Fellowship and Community  
Service



Visit us on the web at [www.greenwichrma.org](http://www.greenwichrma.org)

Here are the volunteers who publish this Bulletin each week for your enjoyment. **Editor/Chairman:** Chet Risio. **Scribes:** Av Rivel, Gran Burgess, Kurt Schaffir, Arnold Gordon, Ed Farrell, Chet Risio, Gerry Lessuk, Steve Elliot, and George Stockbridge, Emeritus. **Archivist:** Harold Frost. **Format and Layout:** Gene Schwartz, Jack Cuff, and Andrzej Mazurek. **Reproduction/Distribution:** Chet Risio.

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President PETER UHRY opened the meeting shortly after 10 AM, asking MAURICE KROHN to lead the Pledge and JERRY SCHWENDEMAN to be Song Leader, backed up by PETER RYAN at the piano. The selected songs were *GOD BLESS AMERICA*, *FOR ME AND MY GAL* and *THAT'S AMORE*. Corresponding Secretary JERRY SCHWENDEMAN related the tale of a Nursing Home resident who complained that the nursing staff was preventing her from carrying out a relieving bodily function.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

PETER mentioned that STEVE BOIES is retiring after four years as Treasurer and, as a token for past efforts, presented STEVE with a piggy bank with RMA printed on it. Peter also noted that his term of office is ending and that the next meeting on May 3rd which will be held in the Sanctuary will be led by DON CONWAY, PETER's successor as President who also was serving as mentor for the day. **Returnees** are three from Florida: GRANVILLE BURGESS from Sarasota; JOSEPH DEVITA from NAPLES, and JOHN HARRIS from Manasota. JOHN VECCHIONE returned from Los Angeles.

BOB LUCE and TED LARRABEE promoted the Greenwich Choral Society's next concert, called "Operatorio", on May 6th at 4PM at the Norwalk Concert Hall. The concert will feature sacred works and favorite opera choruses performed by prominent soloists and full orchestra.\*

## VICE PRESIDENTS' REPORTS

The three Vice Presidents each covered main activities and other services.

Third Vice President JERRY SCHWENDEMAN's principal focus was handling all aspects involving last year's RMA Picnic. JERRY said he had a lot of membership help with picnic food and games. JERRY also handled the business side of the Melody Men's activities.

Second Vice President TAD LARRABEE dealt mainly with the technology and support mechanisms for the RMA, such as, updating and maintaining the Website, working with PETER STERN on an Excel spreadsheet to accurately report individual and total volunteer hours on a laptop computer donated by LES CHEIKIN, and maintaining a cloud-based archive for RMA documents.

First Vice President DON CONWAY, in addition to standing in for the President as needed, focused on finding an alternative to the Burning Tree CC for holding the RMA's Annual Dinner. After researching various suitable area facilities he recommended moving the Annual Dinner to the Tamarack CC for its improved facilities, food service and expense.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**VISITING:** CHUCK STANDARD had nothing to report on membership wellness but welcomed back GEORGE CHELWICK and gave a vigorous goodbye to WALKER COLLINS who is relocating to Texas.

**PROGRAMS:** ARNOLD GORDON gave some background on today's speaker, **David Medd**, Operations Manager of the Southern Division for the Aquarion Water Company which manages usage and water supply for most of Fairfield County. HOLLISTER STURGES advised that next week's speaker will be Jean Bandler, a PHD in Social Work and a founding member of the nonprofit Funeral Consumer Alliance of CT which provides information on Funeral Homes and services in this State.

**MEMBERSHIP:** HORST TEBBE counted the number attending at 114 with one guest, Alex Gospodinoff. **Happy Birthday** was sung for ROBERT ROBINS, 79; GERALD BOYLE, 79; WALTER HOWE, 84; JAMES WILSON, 75; DUDLEY DOMMERICH, 77; and PETER TUNLEY, 72

**VOLUNTEER HOURS:** RUSS HARDEN presented the following hours: 502 outside hours by 50 members; 150 inside hours by 28 members; top RMA member hours was 47 by DON CONWAY.

**SPECIAL EVENTS:** ABBEY SMOLER announced the next upcoming events. Full details below.

## SCOREBOARD

**BRIDGE:** ANDRZEJ MAZUREK reported the following three members with the highest scores - DICK CASE 3920 points, FRANK LEE 3880 points, and PETER STERN 3580 points.

**HEARTS:** JACK SWEGER reported that the group had two tables each with four players. Table #1 completed three games with MIKE AMBROSINO winning two and PETER BERG winning one. Table #2 completed two games with TOM HEALY winning both. JACK is still looking for three additional players.

**TENNIS:** BILL HOWLAND reported that Court #1 winners were TOM HEALY and PETER ORBANOWSKI, and Court #2 winners were ERF PORTER and MIKE SMITH. Next week's captain is RANDY MOTLAND.

**GOLF:** MIKE RYAN reported that, despite inclement weather generally canceling play, two members went out and played nine holes.

## TODAY'S SPEAKER

David Medd has been with the Aquarion Water Company since 1992 directing operations for the supply, treatment, pumping and water storage for the Greenwich-Darien area. The State is in the midst of one of the worst three year drought periods in the last 100 years. Outdoor irrigation is generally banned but some outdoor water uses are allowed, such as drip irrigation and hand held watering. Rainfall and stream flows have been below normal but sufficient quantities of water are expected to be available for essential uses.

## SPECIAL EVENTS

*Open to all members, spouses, candidates and guests. For reservations contact trip coordinators ABBEY SMOLER (203-531-0236) or MIKE FERRARESE (203-554-0678). Checks made out to the RMA must be received within two weeks following the making of the reservations or the reservations will be canceled. All buses depart from the St. Catherine parking lot.*

NYC Botanical Gardens, May 25, 2017, lunch at Mario's, cost \$80, Departs. 8:30 AM. Status: wait listed.

Belmont Race Track, June 15, 2017, buffet lunch, cost \$80, departs 10:30 AM. Status: 24 places open.

Mark Twain Home and Museum, July 20, 2017, box lunch, cost \$76, Departs 8:30 AM. Status; 8 places open.

## NEXT WEEK'S SPEAKER

**Jean Bandler** of the Funeral Consumer Alliance organization will be discussing selecting funeral homes, comparative costs and all issues connected with the end-of-life.

## SPECIAL NOTICES

1. President PETER UHRY designated **May 3, 2017 as Membership Renewal Day**. Please be sure to bring your membership renewal check for **\$90** made out to the RMA on that day. PETER declares that all members, who have not paid their 2017 dues by May 3rd and who do not bring a check on that day, will have to sit in the Sanctuary choir loft and wear a scarlet arm band of shame during the coffee break. Those who have already paid and who pay on May 3<sup>rd</sup> will be automatically entered in a drawing. The winner will win an RMA hat.

2. On April 26, 2017 JIM BUTLER mistakenly removed **a Patagonia rain jacket** from the coat rack that he thought was his jacket. If you are the owner of said jacket you can reach JIM at (203-629-1810) to arrange for the jacket's return.

GERRY LESSUK, Scribe. Visit our website at [www.greenwichrma.org](http://www.greenwichrma.org)