

CIGAR BOX BULLETIN

Retired Men's Association of Greenwich, Inc.

37 Lafayette Place, Greenwich, CT 06830

www.greenwichrma.org

Chair/Editor: **Joe Mancinelli** Graphics: **Av Rivel**

Scribes: **Av Rivel, Arnold Gordon, Ed Farrell, Gerry Lessuk, George Stockbridge,**
Joe Mancinelli, Chet Risio, Frank Scarpa, Marshall Toppo
Archivist: **Harold Frost.** Format: **Jack Cuff, Andrzej Mazurek, Gene Schwartz.** Print/Dist: **Chet Risio**

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"Hope for the best, prepare for the worst. Life is a play, we are unrehearsed."
Mel Brooks

The tolling of the gathering bell began at 9:56 am. **JERRY SCHWENDEMAN** eventually convinced the gathering multitude to be seated. **BOB BISHOP's** Pledge of Allegiance brought more order to the congregation and we all settled in with song leader **DON CONWAY** and accompanist **JIM SANTORA** guiding us through *My Country Tis of Thee, Hey Look Me Over and Tie a Yellow Ribbon.*

MICHAEL AMBROSINO, acting Treasurer, reminded all that he would be accepting checks for annual dues. In addition, he reminded us that the indoor tennis luncheon was scheduled for this coming Friday, May 10th at the Riverside Yacht Club.

GEORGE DIPPY was the mentor for today. Our Corresponding Secretary, **ARNOLD GORDON**, humored us with clever definitions of "divorce" and "bigamy." He then intrigued us with a waitress that was offended when a customer ordered quiche.

RICH BISK related a tale of his adventures during an evening in Spokane, Washington, a diversion from his normal customer call list.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

This week's returnees included **ED FARRELL** from North Carolina and Florida, **PETER TUNLEY** from Palm Beach Gardens, Florida, and **BILL O'DONNELL** from Fort Lauderdale By the Sea, Florida. On a celebratory note, **RON MURRAY** has enjoyed 50 years of matrimony.

STEVEN MYERS provided a brief reminder regarding today's speaker **Dr. Robin Bell, Ph. D.** who will be speaking on *Changing Ice, Changing Coastlines.* **ARTHUR STAPLEMAN** then presented next week's speaker, **Cynthia J MacKay, MD.** Her topic

will be *Age Related Macular Degeneration, AMD, The Largest Cause of Blindness for Seniors*.

BOB RIMMER announced the tour of Greenwich High School on May 13th at 9:00 am. Please plan to arrive at the high school at 8:30 am. Car-pooling is recommended. **GEORGE STOCKBRIDGE** reminded us that the Shakespear Group will be meeting at 1:30 pm today at **KEITH SMITH's** home for a viewing of *Othello*.

REGULAR REPORTS

MEMBERSHIP: **HORST TEBBE** announced a strong turnout of 121 members, one candidate and two guests for today's meeting. Barry Richelsoph was a guest of **RUSS HARDEN** and **PETER UHRY**. Earle Cote was a guest of **GEORGE UBOGY** and **TOM HEALY**. The inductee is **Dr. JOE BOLDT**, who is sponsored by **RUSS HARDIN**. **JOE** is a longtime resident of Greenwich, CT. He graduated from Ridgewood, High School in New Jersey, Lafayette College and Fairleigh Dickinson School of Dentistry where he received his DDS. **JOE** enjoys all sports, woodworking, and boating. He was unanimously approved for membership.

Birthday boys included **JOHN DENNE**, 80, **DON HERMAN**, 85, and **MARIO BONAPARTE** at the ripe old age of 94.

VOLUNTEER HOURS: Presented by **JOHN FEBLES**, the numbers were announced as follows: Total Outside hours 444 by 48 members, 163 inside hours by 35 members, most hours for this week, 35 achieved by **ALAN GUNSBURG**.

GAMES OF THE RMA

BRIDGE: There were six players. Top point getters were **RON MURRAY** and **TONY COCCHI** with 2230, including a slam. Second place were **RON FRIEDMAN** and **FRANK LEE** with 2170. Third place was **RALPH VIGGIANO** and **JOHN FEBLES**.

HEARTS: There were two tables with a total of eight players. Winners were **JOHN STANKUANS** with two, **JOHN KAVANAH** with one and **CHARLIE GRAVES** with one. Moon shots were made by **JOHN STANKUNAS**, **PETER BERG** and **JOHN KAVANAGH**.

INDOOR TENNIS: For the final game of the indoor season, on Court #1 winners were **BOB GRAYSON** and **ANDREJZ MAZURAK**. Court #2 winners were **MIKE SMITH** and **ANDY HOLMES**.

GOLF: Five foursomes teed off at 8:30 am. Of the twenty players starting, fourteen finished 18 holes. Five players scored under one hundred with a low score for the day of 92 by **RUSS HARDEN**. Longest drive went to **GEOFF BURGE** on hole seventeen. Closest to the pin on hole seven was **MIKE SMITH** and closest to the pin on hole fifteen was **JIM BOARDMAN**. Next weeks captain is **MIKE RYAN**.

TAI CHI WALK: **WILL MORRISON** announced that the RMA Tai Chi Walkers, not to be confused with the White Walkers of *Game of Thrones* fame, will be continuing their practice. They will be meeting at the Greenwich Senior Center. A brief demo of Tai Chi Walk will be held in the weekly RMA meeting room on May 15 at approximately 8:30 am.

OUTDOOR TENNIS AND PICKLEBALL REMINDER: Tennis – Monday 9-11, Pickleball Thursday, 9-11, both activities will be at the Loughlin Ave. Field, Cos Cob.

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.

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 1:00 pm. Status: Wait Listed. 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

STEVE MYERS introduced **Dr. Robin Bell, Ph.D. who spoke on the topic of *Changing Ice, Changing Coast lines***. Dr. Bell is the PGI Lamont Research Professor at Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory of Columbia University. She directs research programs in Antarctica, Greenland, and for developing technology to monitor our changing planet. She reminded us that she is a spokesperson for large teams of people since science is actually a team sport requiring large numbers of people and sufficient funding. We live on a glacierized landscape. Twenty thousand years ago, Greenwich, CT, was covered under a mountain of ice. Glaciers are known to move at approximately 6 miles per year. She cited three pieces of evidence that the ice sheets are changing. Ice is moving faster, getting lower and losing mass when compared to data from the recent past. In the last one hundred years, sea level in Manhattan has risen about nine inches. However, there are a small number of locations such as Stockholm, Sweden, where sea level has actually decreased. While there have been significant findings regarding ice and glaciers, there is still a great deal of uncertainty. Therefore, the scientific community must stay informed, must be thoroughly engaged in their research and must demand support from agencies, institutions and government.

NEXT WEEK'S SPEAKER

Dr. Cynthia MacKay will speak on, *Age-Related Macular Degeneration, The largest Cause of Blindness for Seniors*.

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