



## 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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May 10, 2017

Newly-minted President DON CONWAY (DC) called order out of disorder and summoned Your Humble Scribe (YHS) from his inky post to lead us in the Pledge. After loudly proclaiming our patriotism, JACK SWEGER led us in singing it in "Grand Old Flag," ably assisted by tinkling JIM SANTORA. JACK, reflecting his role as Chairman of the Hearts Club, then led us in "Heart of My Hearts," and, reflecting his role as a Southern Sympathizer, in "Mame." HARRY TWITCHELL then followed with a list of witticisms from the likes of Disraeli, Mark Twain, and Winston Churchill. YHS fave was this gem by Groucho Marx: "I've had a wonderful evening. Unfortunately, this wasn't it."

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

After this energizing opening, President Conway (PC) then efficiently led us through a short list of announcements. PETER UHRY submitted LES CHEIKIN for confirmation as our new Treasurer, said confirmation voiced unanimously. We then warmly applauded retiring STEVE BOIES for his superb job as Treasurer. PC urged us to sign up for the town cleanup effort at the Fire House from 8am-12pm May 13, call [203-531-0006](tel:203-531-0006) for info. DC informed us of a May 16 talk at Cole Auditorium in the Library about "Fake News"—and, no, this news isn't fake. PC/DC relayed BOB CAREY's request for help with the ROMEO luncheon gang. And STEVE BOIES gave his final report as Treasurer, highlighting that our income was some \$1600 under budget due to a lower number of members and our expenses were some \$1600 above budget partially due to increased cost of refreshments, for a net loss of \$2,370.57. A \$10 increase in dues and PC/DC's pledge to take a refreshing look at the refreshment situation should remedy this shortfall.

## COMMITTEES:

**VISITING:** CHUCK “It’s A Beautiful Day” STANDARD reported that – Hallelujah-there is no one in the hospital or in re-hab. And-double hallelujah—BILL SALTSMAN is back with us.

**PROGRAM:** GEORGE UBOGY primed us for opera singer Pamela Kuhn’s talk (see below) and HOLLISTER STURGES urged us to stick around next week for Ambassador Thomas Niles talk about the “Outlook for Foreign Policy.”

**MEMBERSHIP:** HORST TEBBE proved there is accounting for taste by leading us in another round of applause for Steve BOIES’ accounting skills. He then reported attendance of 99 members, one candidate (Rob Bloom), and two guests: Peter LeBeau g/o ERF PORTER and Charles Costello g/o PAUL BRADY. Horst also noted that only a little over half of us have ponied up our dues. Time to saddle up, gang.

**BIRTHDAY BOYS:** DON HERMANN, 83, CHARLES SHIBETTI, 82, and SERGE GABRIEL, 88. Happy Birthday, fellas!

**VOLUNTEERS:** JOHN FEBLES reported: 360 outside hours by 39 men and 224 RMA hours by 38 men, with BILL SALTSMAN leading the way with 86 hours. Noting the number of reported hours is down, John emphasized that he knows many people do volunteer work but do not report their hours, stressing how important it is that we do so. If it’s easier to report them outside the meeting, herewith the email addresses where you can do so: [jfebles13@gmail.com](mailto:jfebles13@gmail.com) (JOHN FEBLES), [pmstern@optonline.net](mailto:pmstern@optonline.net) (PETER STERN), [gmayfield@mac.com](mailto:gmayfield@mac.com) (GERRY MAYFIELD).

**SPECIAL EVENTS:** MIKE FERRARESE provided the latest information for upcoming events listed below.

## SPORTS

**BRIDGE:** Keeping Bridge reporting charmingly accented, ANDRZEJ MAZUREK said that FRANK LEE was the week’s winner with 2830 points, followed by ANDRZEJ MAZUREK with 2440, and DICK CASE at 2090.

**GOLF:** MIKE RYAN reported that 18 golfers went ‘round on a beautiful day. YHS was closest to the pin on #7. He then knocked it to five feet on #15 and was happily anticipating another five bucks when RICH BARTHOLOMEW stiffed one to two feet. Coincidentally, TED EWING was off the green at #15 with a tricky pitch downhill out of high grass and he proceeded to hole the shot. Visibly shaken, YHS and BART then missed their putts. Adding insult to injury, TED then beat BART by about two feet to win longest drive. He then insulted everybody by posting the lowest score of 87. Such are the vagaries of this long-walk-spoiled game. Come on out and experience the agony and the camaraderie yourself! PETE UHRY captains next week.

**TENNIS:** PETE UHRY and MIKE SMITH were winners on Court #1 and RON FRIEDMAN and RALPH VIGGIANO were winners on Court #2, as reported by MIKE AMBROSINO. Mike also urged attendance at the annual tennis luncheon, noting that all were welcomed even if you don't play tennis—"if you can spell 'tennis'" was the way he put it.

**HEARTS:** JACK SWEGER told us from the heart how RALPH VIGGIANO and MIKE AMBROSINO parlayed their tennis skills into a two-games victory while TONY RIGGI battled heart-to-heart to emerge a one-game champ. New players welcomed.

### **TODAY'S PROGRAM**

Soprano Pamela Kuhn has had a wonderful career, and her joyous presentation, complete with slides of her youth in eastern Oregon and photos of her with top celebrities, showed us why. At age 14, attending a concert conducted by Robert Shaw, she threw off her infatuation with the Beatles and Ella Fitzgerald and devoted herself to a career in classical music. For twenty years she sang in London and Europe, learning that to be an opera singer is to be a kind of Olympic athlete, training every day with single-minded focus, and dealing with constant worry about "the voice" and whether it was still "there." For Act III of her life, she came to Greenwich and now, besides her vocal studio where she still teaches, she conducts three choruses: the Silvertones for seniors, the Mastersingers, and the Angel Choir, who performed for us. Ms. Kuhn also sang Wagner's beautiful "Du Bist Der Lind." She is extremely proud of her weekly WGBH radio program in which she interviews artists, Tuesdays from 9:00-9:30 am. A very different and very enjoyable program!

### **SPECIAL EVENTS**

Open to all members, spouses, candidates, and guests. Checks made out to RMA and must be received within two weeks following the making of the reservations or they will be cancelled. For reservations contact trip coordinators MIKE FERRARESE: [203-554-0678](tel:203-554-0678) and ABBEY SMOLER: [203-531-0236](tel:203-531-0236).

**Botanical Gardens**, May 25, \$95/pp, restaurant Mario's, bus from St. Catherine's at 8:30: CLOSED.

**Belmont Race Track**, June 15, \$80/pp., buffet at the track, bus from St. Cath's at 10:45: two places.

**Mark Twain House/Museum**, July 20, \$76/pp, bus from St. Cath's at 8:45, box lunch: 5 places.

Respectfully submitted: **GRAN BURGESS** visit our website at [www.greenwichrma.org](http://www.greenwichrma.org).

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