

CIGAR BOX BULLETIN

Volume 63, No. 2

May 13, 2015

"Being in a ship is being in a jail, with the chance of being drowned."

Boswell's Life of Dr. Johnson Volume #1

Here are the volunteers who publish this Bulletin each week for your enjoyment: **Editor:** George Stockbridge, Chair; **Scribes:** Gran Burgess, Av Rivel, Kurt Schaffir, Peter Uhry, Bernard Schneider, Jim Butler, Arnold Gordon, Ed Farrell; Martin Grayson, Emeritus; **Format and Layout:** Gene Schwartz, Fred Waldron; **Archivist:** Harold Frost; **Printing:** Chet Risio, Larry Schmitz

President RALPH VIGGIANO caught lots of members off guard when he rang the bell at 10:00 sharp. Lots of socializing going on. JOHN CRAINE led the pledge to the flag, followed by JERRY SCHWENDEMAN, with GEORGE STOCKBRIDGE masterly managing the keyboard, leading the singing with *It's a Grand Old Flag*, *Button Up Your Overcoat (a little late in the season it strikes me)* and *Bye Bye Blackbird*. BOB CAREY provided humor – including the one about the choking boy and the IRS agent.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

President VIGGIANO expressed appreciation for the RMA work done by members BOB BISHOP, MAURICE KROHN, ED FARRELL, TONY PELLICANO and DOUG FRANCEFORT. He reminded us that membership dues of \$70 (include an email address with your CHECK) were due on May 1, 2015. Pay HORST TEBBE. RALPH also announced that the Woman's Club of Greenwich Inc is seeking volunteers to help with parking on June 6th during their appraisal event. Two hour shifts between 9am and 3pm. (Contact RALPH for details) The lone returnee was DOUG FRANCEFORT from PA. DOUG F. announced that on Monday, May 18th at 4:30pm, volunteers can meet to place American flags by veterans graves in Putnam Cemetery. He needs lots of helpers...who need to bring gloves to protect hands and hammers to deal with the dry soil. Meet at cemetery entry way. (Rain date May 19th. Same time and place) BERNARD SCHNEIDER seeks RMA marchers for the Old Greenwich Memorial Day Parade. Meet at Lincoln Avenue on Monday May 25th at 9:00am. The parade route is up Sound Beach Avnue for a mile and ends near Binney Park. (Call BERNIE for more details). BOB ROBINS said the ROMEO Luncheon was so good they will do two more later this year. (Right-on!!) TAD LARRABEE said that the Greenwich Choral Society will hold its Stars and Stripes concert this Sunday May 17th -4:30pm Norwalk Con cert Hall. Tickets:\$38-\$28. Call 203-622-5136. (They need ushers too.)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Visiting : CHUCK STANDARD reported that RICH LIMBACHER is walking 152 steps and remains at Nathaniel Witherell. DON O'KEEFE and MEL MARGULIS are also laid up and DAVID DOWNS and MARIO BONAPARTE were welcomed back. **Membership** : JIM FAHY reported attendance of 120, including three candidates and Satish Khorama g/o JAN MEYER. The **birthday** boys were SERGE GABRIEL 89; PETER DIXON 91; FRAN AUGER 92; RICHARD CASE 80; BOB PHILLIPS 74 and GEORGE SUTER 83. JOHN FEBLES reported 402 **volunteer** hours for outside agencies by 57 members, and 70 hours for RMA activities by 21 members for the week ending May 13. DOUG FRANCEFORT reported the most hours with 31 hours. JOHN F. takes over for STEVE MARINO as RMA's new Volunteer Committee Chairman. JOHN DeCSEPEL reported that **this week's speaker**, was Paul-Henry Nargeolet who would discuss his diving work with Titanic, Inc. (See below) **Next week's speaker**, Stuart Gibson will title his talk - "The Hermitage Museum, 250 Years in the Shadows of History." (Everyone is welcome as is our standard procedure)

FUN AND GAMES

WALKERS: TAD LARRABEE invited all to join his Thursday morning walkers. Meet at 9:30am at the Eastern Civic Center. **BRIDGE** : KURT SCHAFFIR reported 8 players. WAYNE DeVRIES was first with 4670 points; DICK CASE second with 3870; and JOHN FEBLES third with 3670. **TENNIS** : RON FRIEDMAN reported that RANDY MOTLAND and Bill Fakundiny were the winners on Court 1; and Mike Warner and Fred Baker won on Court 2. This was the final week of the winter season. **SUMMER TENNIS** : TED SPOOL reminded us that members can play Monday and Thursday from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. at the Bruce Park Drive tennis court (A new location). **GOLF** : PETER UHRY reported warm and breezy conditions with green tees used. Twenty players played, and with shorter distances, some great scores were achieved. Guest Ken Strauswick shot a 77, RMA Candidate Ted Ewing produced an 80, MIKE SMITH had the longest drive and was closest to the pin on 7 while JIM MACKAY was closest to the hole on 15. MIKE SMITH hosts next week.

SPECIAL EVENTS

GERRY LESSUK made the report. Events are open to all members, guests, candidates and spouses. Contact GERRY for information and reservations. Members are reminded that fees and meal selections are due at the time reservations are made. Delays are unfair to other members on waiting lists.

Goodspeed Theater – May 28, 2015, \$115 per person, including lunch at Gelston House. Bus leaves St. Catherine at 10:00. Wait listed. (Must pay by next Wednesday or forfeit your spot)

Belmont Race Track – June 18, 2015, \$75 per person, including lunch (dress code). Bus leaves St. Catherine at 10:30. Wait listed. (Must pay by next Wednesday or forfeit your spot)

Tanglewood / Boston Symphony – August 9, 2015, \$125 per person including lunch at Appletree Inn. Bus leaves Eastern Civic Center at 9:30. 12 places available.

TODAY'S PROGRAM

Today's speaker presented a compelling and informative illustrated lecture on the Titanic. Using facts, film and insightful tidbits (warm winter weather contributed to a high level of North Atlantic ice in 1912) Mr. **Paul-Henry Nargeolet** explained how he, as part of Titanic, Inc. has made 30 dives on the oceanliner that sank 103 years ago. Using submersibles, over 130,000 photos have been taken. Site mapping has been done and some 5,800 artifacts have been recovered. Today, we learned, bacteria are eating some 600-800 lbs of metal off the ship each day. As with all our programs, this one will be archived on the RMA website. 131 people attended the lecture and question and answer session.

PETER UHRY, *-Meeting Recorder and CBB Scribe*

Visit the RMA website at www.greenwichrma.org