



CIGAR BOX BULLETIN

Retired Men's Association of Greenwich, Inc.

www.greenwichrma.org

This Bulletin is brought to you each week by these volunteers
Chair/Editor: Chet Risio. Scribes: Gran Burgess, Av Rivel, Kurt Schaffir, Arnold Gordon, Ed Farrell, Gerry Lessuk, Steve Elliott, George Stockbridge, Marshall Toppo. Archivist: Harold Frost. Format: Jack Cuff, Andrzej Mazurek, Gene Schwartz. Graphics: Av Rivel. Print/Distribution: Chet Risio.

Volume 66, Number 4, May 23, 2018

Scribe: CHET RISIO

In lieu of a quotation that usually marks this section, here is a printed version of what the Sanctuary audio system sounded like: President TAD LARRABEE called the meeting to order at 10:02am by announcing: "Our Pledge *"Phooh Da Garwumpf* leader is *Strrau Gluar AagggFloo* JACK SWEarggflugGER."

JACK also led us in singing America, Get Me To *The Church and Everybody Loves Somebody* with BOB MORGAN at the piano. For this songfest, lyrics were projected on a screen for all to see and sing, a much simpler method than the song books. All this was courtesy of STEVE MARINO and JIM FISHBEIN.

Corresponding Secretary BOB CAREY amused us with a tale of a husband discovering his wife in bed with a man who was supporting his lavish life style.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. TAD thanked JERRY SCHWENDEMAN for standing in for Tad's bad voice last week.
2. ARNOLD GORDON gave a fond Memorial Remembrance of Deceased RMA Members who died during the past RMA year, May 1, 2017- April 30, 2018. The average age of all was 87.5 ranging from 74 to 99. They are listed here with their date of death and age.

LeBlanc	Raymond	5/15/2017	99
Pierce	Roger S.	5/28/17	87
Kirkman	Walter B.	6/12/2017	89
Cheikin	Leslie	7/10/2017	74
Freeman	Leon	7/18/2017	89
deCsepel	John	7/28/2017	81
Standard	Charles E.	8/9/2017	98
Smith	Philip	8/10/2017	76
Zboray	William B.	9/17/2017	83
Benson	Benjamin	10/31/2017	86
Gerecke	William	11/20/2017	93
Burleson	Noel David	12/31/2017	86
Klingner	Roland	1/1/2018	92
Knight	Haven A.	1/6/2018	89
Hull	Lloyd	1/15/2018	95
Shibetti	Charles	2/20/2018	82
Mecca	Nicholas	4/4/2018	89

3. AV RIVEL spearheads a movement to gather old musical instruments, refurbish them and donate them to schools in the area. He welcomes donations from members. Contact him at 203-531-0803 or arivel@optonline.net. Today he lauded VIN MASI and the Greenwich American Legion for contributing valued instruments to the Greenwich High School and to the Port Chester High School Marching Band. The latter included a Glockenspiel.

4. DON CONWAY told the members to be aware of Medicare phone scams during the period this year when we all receive our new Medicare cards.

5. PETER UHRY said he would order more RMA caps and shirts if there is enough demand. PETER will take your order: 203 637-9482 or uhry@sbcglobal.net

6. Returnees: RALPH VIGGIANO from Wilmington, NC, HORST TEBBE from Charleston, SC, and REID MCINTYRE from California.

COMMITTEES

VISITING: WAYNE WRIGHT informed us that TIM NOLAN and DOM DE MAIO are both at Nathaniel Witherell and would welcome calls. HARRY TWITCHELL is at home eager for calls and visits. BILL SALTSMAN is also at home and a phone call is welcome.

MEMBERSHIP: HORST TEBBE announced that 114 members were present with one candidate and two guests for a total of 117 in attendance. The guests, both of FRANK SCARPA, were Tony Ruggerio and Rick Wolff. The **BirthDay Boys** were

KLAUS JANDER 78, KARL SCHULZE 79, MIKE FINLAY 76, BILL O'DONNELL 73, STEVE ELLIOTT 77, TOM HEALY 80 and LARRY POSNER 70.

Gerald Stinson was presented for membership by BOB BISHOP and MIKE AMBROSINO. Jerry is a retired teacher with an M.A. in American Studies. He taught English at the Alternative High School in Greenwich. A resident of Byram, he spends countless hours overseeing the gigantic semi-annual book sale to benefit the Byram Schubert Library. JERRY was resoundingly accepted as a member into the RMA.

VOLUNTEER HOURS: For the week of May 23, 2018, HAROLD KUPLESKY reported 473 outside hours by 39 members and 140 inside hours by 20 members. Top RMA member was KEATING HAGMANN with 56 hours.

PROGRAM: Today's Speaker: JERRY POLLACK urged all to stay for a presentation by **DAVID WEISBROD** on "The 2008 Crash."

Next Week's Speaker: HOLLISTER STURGES recommended the talk on May 30 by **Flemming Hellman**, author, on "Odyssey Uncharted, from World War II Malaya to Australia to Cambridge".

SPECIAL EVENTS: ABBEY SMOLER brought us up to date on two pending events. Details below.

FUN AND GAMES

BRIDGE: RON FRIEDMAN gave these scores for the May 17, 2018 bridge games: KURT SCHAFFIR 2440, RON FRIEDMAN 2380 and FRANK LEE 2340.

TENNIS: MIKE AMBROSINO mentioned that the annual Tennis Luncheon was held May 18th at Riverside Yacht Club. Cumulative seasonal set winners received prizes: #1 ANDRZEJ MAZUREK, #2 RON FRIEDMAN and #3 MICHAEL SMITH.

HEARTS: ANDY HOLMES said there were 12 players on May 16. Table #1 winners were ANDY HOLMES in game 1 and RICK HOLZ game 2. Table #2: game 1 JACK WEIR, game 2 GRANT PERKINS. Table #3: games 1 & 3 LOU TROVATO, game 2, JACK SWEGER. Shooting the moon once were TOM HEALY, RICK HOLZ and PETER BERG. Two moonshots were made by LOU TROVATO.

GOLF: JAY SCHONDORF said the RMA golf outing on May 22, 2018 faced threatening weather but the rain held off. There were five foursomes for 18 holes and a group for nine holes. Five golfers broke 100 and the low score was 94. Closest to the pin on #7 was FRED GOODSTEIN and on #15 was MIKE SMITH. Longest drive on # 17 was JIM BOARDMAN. Next week's captain is PETER UHRY.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Open to all members, guests, candidates and spouses. Checks to be made out to RMA, and must be received within two weeks or the reservation will be

cancelled. Contact MIKE FERRARESE (myagentmike@yahoo.com / 203-554-0678) or ABBEY SMOLER (abbeysmoler@gmail.com / 203-531-0235).

Belmont Race Track. Thursday, June 14, 2018. Lunch: Buffet in Belmont Room. Cost: \$85.00. Bus leaves St. Catherine's at 10:30 AM. Status: One opening.

Sound Water Cruise Aug 30th. \$35pp. Snacks. Self- drive. Cruise from 2:00 to 4:00pm. Status: 23 open.

TODAY'S SPEAKER

JERRY POLLAK introduced DAVID WEISBROD, an RMA member, who spoke on "The 2008 Crash: View From the Trenches". Mr. Weisbrod, former Chief Risk Officer of Treasuries and Securities at JP Morgan Chase, introduced us to the Triparty Repo Market.

This interdependent grouping consists of three financial elements: Investors, Borrowers and Clearing Banks. In the daily interchange of this \$2 trillion money market, if one of these entities were to falter, it would bring down the other two. In 2008 this scenario came perilously close to occurring.

Mr. Weisbrod focused on the fragile situation at Lehman Brothers, whose pledged collateral consisted of faulty real estate loans that were included in mortgage-backed security funds. During a frantic September weekend, when Mr. Weisbrod was hosting his daughter's wedding, he was also fielding calls from his company and the NY Federal Reserve.

Lehman Brothers did collapse but successful financial moves managed to avoid total collapse of the money market. Mr. Weisbrod noted that the resulting passage of the Dodd Frank bill now addresses some of the weaknesses in the system that led to the Great Recession.

NEXT WEEK'S SPEAKER

Flemming Hellman, author, on "Odyssey Uncharted, from World War II Malaya to Australia to Cambridge".

Visit us at www.greenwichrma.org

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