

CIGAR BOX BULLETIN

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June 1, 2016

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

President PETER UHRY rang the opening bell shortly after 10:00 AM and called on PAUL BRADY to lead us in The Pledge. DON CONWAY, accompanied by BOB MORGAN on the piano, led us in singing *The Star Spangled Banner, Who's Sorry Now and You're Nobody 'Til Somebody Love You*. ARNOLD GORDON drew laughs with his story about a 90 year old man, who chose soup over what was really being offered. ARNOLD also offered a medley of Rodney Dangerfield one-liners that reminded us of how funny Rodney was.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

PETER asked for a round of applause for BILL SALTSMAN, who is retiring as RMA historian.

ARNOLD GORDON announced that seven members have thus far responded to his limerick challenge to be held at our June 15 meeting. He urged others to send him entries at ejgordon@verizon.net or via telephone at 203-273-5779 or 203-340-9336.

BOB ROBINS noted that today is the last day to sign up for the Romeo luncheon to be held on June 8 at the Stanwich Country Club. As a follow-on to Carolyn Cole's recent presentation on safety tips for senior citizens, GEORGE UBOGY made available to members a series of questions to ask ourselves to assess how safety conscious we are.

WAYNE DEVRIES announced that there will be a book sale at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Riverside on Friday, June 3, (6-8 PM) and Saturday, June 4, (10 AM – 4PM). There will be an entry fee of \$10.00 on Friday, but there will be no such charge on Saturday.

ERF PORTER announced the creation of a Greenwich Veterans Council. The Council will be an umbrella group comprised of the several existing town veterans organizations. Its purpose will be to identify all Greenwich veterans, use town Dept. of Social Services to provide assistance and support to town veterans and provide timely and useful information on veteran's issues.

RETURNEES:

PETER welcomed back DAN GRIMSICH (Clearwater, FL.), JOE ROE (Naples, FL.) and GERRY BOYLE (Alabama & South Carolina).

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Visiting: CHUCK STANDARD told us that JIM BUTLER is doing well, but JOE MALARA is making only slow progress. JACK BAUSMAN has concluded a long stay in the ICU, but continues to recover from a serious infection.

Program: Today's speaker will be **Heather Ewing**, daughter of ED EWING, who will speak on "The Smithsonian Institution and its Fascinating History." Next week, the RMA's own AL KNIGHT will speak on events leading up to the Spanish Civil War and the implications of political discourse gone awry.

Membership: HORST TEBBE reported 121 members present along with four candidates and 1 guest, Deryck Duncan, guest of WAYNE DEVRIES. This week's birthday boys are: JOHN DECSEPEL (80); JOHN HARRIS (82); DOUGLAS CAMPBELL (87); RALPH VIGGIANO (68); HARRY LEIGH (84); JOE IMM (87); ERF PORTER (80).

NOTE: SOME MEMBERS HAVE NOT PAID THEIR \$80 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES. FOR THOSE MEMBERS, PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES ASAP.

Special Events: MIKE FERRARESE announced that three trips are currently scheduled. See details below.

Volunteers: JOHN FEBLES reported that, for the week ending June 1, 2016, 46 men reported 411 volunteer hours on behalf of outside agencies and 24 men reported 118 volunteer hours on behalf of the RMA. The most hours (67) were reported by BOB CAREY.

FUN AND GAMES:

Bridge: KURT SCHAFFIR reported that the May 25, 2016, game drew 16 players. High scorers were: TOM MCEVOY (4580); Sanjay Santharam (4359); JAMES CHUNG (4030).

Golf: On May 31, 2016, 21 players "came to play." RICH BARTHOLOMEW was the only player to break 90. Closest to the pin on holes 7 and 15 were RICH BARTHOLOMEW and KIP SCHULZE respectively. PETER TUNLEY had the longest drive on 17.

TODAY'S SPEAKER:

Heather Ewing, Executive Director of the Center for Italian Modern Art, provided members with a fascinating tale of how a British scientist, James Smithson, who never visited the United States, left his fortune to found "at Washington, under the name of the Smithsonian Institution, an establishment for the increase and diffusion of knowledge."

Today, the Smithsonian is comprised of 19 museums, and is a center for scientific research.

SPECIAL EVENTS

*Open to all Members, Guests, Candidates and spouses.
Checks should be made out to RMA.*

Belmont Racetrack. Thursday, June 16, 2016. Buffet lunch in Belmont Room. Cost: \$75.00 per person. Bus leaves St. Catherine's at 10:30 AM. Status: Wait list. Contact GERRY LESSUK (gerrless@att.net / 203-698-9451); ABBEY SMOLER (abbeysmoler@gmail.com / 203-531-0236) for information.

Soundwater Cruise, Thursday, July 14, 2016. Snacks on Board. Cost: \$65.00 per person. Transportation to boat by private car. Boat leaves at 3:30 PM. Status: Wait list. Contact MIKE FERRARESE (myagentmike@yahoo.cm / 203-554-0678) for information.

Goodspeed Opera House, Thursday, August 11, 2016. Bye, Bye Birdie. Lunch at Gelston House. Cost: \$115.00 per person. Bus leaves St. Catherine's at 10:00 AM. Status: Open. Contact MIKE FERRARESE (myagentmike@yahoo.cm / 203-554-0678) or ABBEY SMOLER (abbeysmoler@gmail.com / 203-531-0236) for information.

For more details and to sign-up, contact GERRY LESSUK (gerrless@att.net, 203-698-9451) or ABBEY SMOLER (abbeysmoler@gmail.com, 203-531-0236)

NEXT WEEK

Next week the RMA will welcome: **AL KNIGHT** on the subject of The Spanish Civil War and the Implications of Political Discourse Gone Awry.

Visit our website at www.greenwicherma.org.

Respectfully Submitted: **Ed Farrell** -Scribe