



CIGAR BOX BULLETIN

Retired Men's Association of Greenwich, Inc.

www.greenwichrma.org

This Bulletin is brought to you each week by these volunteers
Scribes: **Av Rivel, Kurt Schaffir, Arnold Gordon, Ed Farrell, Gerry Lessuk, George Stockbridge, Dan Fredland, Joe Mancinelli, Frank Scarpa, Marshall Toppo.** On leave: **Steve Elliott,** Archivist: **Harold Frost.** Format: **Jack Cuff, Andrzej Mazurek, Gene Schwartz.** Print/Dist: **Chet Risio**

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Scribe: FRANK SCARPA

"Prejudice is a great time saver. You can form opinions without having to get the facts." E.B. White

President TAD LARRABEE called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

BOB BISHOP led the Pledge of Allegiance. With GEORGE STOCKBRIDGE at the piano, DON CONWAY led the singing of "The National Anthem", a "ragged and funny" rendition of "Side By Side", followed by "On the Sunny Side of the Street".

TOM HEALY graced us with two jokes. The first (handed down by the late Peter Ryan) involved a race track visit by grade schoolers and a chance meeting with a jockey. The second story, appropriate to today's speaker, highlighted the possible tragic consequences of having Auto-correct on our computers.

WAYNE WRIGHT reported that JOE MANCINELLI has returned safely from a hospitalization in Greece and was present today.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Guest Jennifer Febles spoke on behalf of Kids in Crisis. This organization—which provides crisis prevention, intervention, support and advocacy—is hosting a fund-raising triathlon and Family Festival on June 23-24 at Cummings Beach in Stamford. She made a plea for volunteers for that event. (200 are needed.) KIC is privately funded, and monetary contributions are appreciated.

Visit: www.kicitriathlon.com/volunteer or call 203 622 6556.

2. ARNOLD GORDON apprised the membership of the "90 Plus Study". Volunteers over 90 years of age are being sought for a study evaluating

life styles (diet, alcohol and coffee consumption, body weight etc.) and correlations with longevity. Contact 949 768 3635 or visit study90@uci.edu for more information.

3. WAYNE DE VRIES has posted the proposed budget on the bulletin board. Comments are welcome.
4. PETER STERN reported that TAG is seeking volunteers to drive seniors and disabled Greenwich residents to medical appointments or other necessities. Shifts are 4 hours in duration, Monday through Friday. Office help with computers is also sorely needed. Those interested may call 203 637 4345.
5. PETER UHRY announced the "last call" for RMA caps or polo shirts.
6. RETURNEES: TAD LARRABEE noted that WAYNE DE VRIES has returned from Maine, MARSHALL TOPPO from Ft. Lauderdale, PETER STERN from Martha's Vineyard, TOM HEALY from Las Vegas and BOB CAREY from London and Portugal.
7. SPECIAL EVENTS: ABBEY SMOLER previewed upcoming events (details below). MIKE FERRARESE reported that he and ABBEY would welcome volunteers to assist them and, ultimately, assume their roles in organizing these events.

COMMITTEES

MEMBERSHIP: HORST TEBBE noted that 99+ members were in attendance, plus 2 guests: Geoffrey Burge, g/o TONY COCCHI and Bob Fishman, g/o MIKE WARNER. The birthday boys were ERF PORTER 82, PETER COLEMAN 73 and ROB BLOOM 67. HORST noted that 36 men have not yet paid their dues, urging compliance.

VOLUNTEER HOURS: TONY COCCHI reported 298 outside hours submitted by 38 men and 147 inside hours by 20 men. TAD LARRABEE topped the scales with 36 hours.

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FUN AND GAMES

BRIDGE: PETER STERN reported on 9 players on 5/30. "HIMSELF" was the blushing winner with 3,300. JOHN HOFFMAN was 2nd with 2,950 and RON FRIEDMAN came in third with 2,780.

GOLF: PETER UHRY reported on 26 optimistic players. Heavy rain curtailed play, and few players finished 9 holes. Closest to the pin prizes were not awarded on account of "blurred pencil markings". PETER attributed conditions to Divine Intervention and "offered up" the longest drive prize to the Deity. PETER STERN will host on June 12.

SUMMER TENNIS was rained out on Monday.

PICKLEBALL garnered 7 players. TONY COCCHI, in charge, welcomed new players on Tuesdays from 9-11 at Loughlin Field in Cos Cob.

HEARTS: There were two tables, 5 games, 8 players and 4 winners. (JACK SWEGER won twice.) There were 5 "moon shooters", and Jack was one of them also. Special recognition should go to the two players who continue to show up without any measurable success.

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: June 14. Cost \$85pp, buffet lunch in the Belmont Room. Bus leaves St. Catherine's at 10:30 a.m. Status Wait listed. Note: JACKET AND TIE REQUIRED.

Sound Water Cruise: August 30, 2-4 p.m. Snacks served aboard. Cost \$35 Self-drive. Status: open.

TODAY'S SPEAKER

Jerry Shereshevsky of Redding has had a long career in advertising, direct media and public relations; and he has spent 22 years at Young and Rubicam as well as extensive time at Yahoo. He points out that "today we are all publishers". However, he still relies on the New York Times as his "source of information". He now illustrates the power of networks. "There are more websites than people." He details the rise and success of Facebook, Amazon, Google and E-bay. These are not "fads". Social media has become "a way to keep up". The logarithmic growth of networks was (and is) inevitable. The prevention of the dissemination of "fake news" is a conundrum.

NEXT WEEK'S SPEAKER

Dr. Jill Gildea, Superintendent of Greenwich Public Schools. "Top 12 Innovative Practices at Greenwich Public Schools."

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