

CIGAR BOX BULLETIN

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*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*

Prexy RALPH rang us to our seats at the usual hour and then made an unusual announcement: there would be women present during our business meeting! Incredibly, no astounded gasp arose from the membership, because Ralph quickly explained that visiting were BOB OPPENHEIMER's two daughters and, as our oldest member and a man of a young 100 years, Bob was granted the special opportunity of having his children in attendance. We were all inspired to strive to reach the century mark so our children might also attend an RMA meeting. Prexy also recorded these names for recognition: JIM SANTORA, GEORGE STOCKBRIDGE, BOB MORGAN, PETER RYAN, and GEORGE UBOGY.

JERRY SCHWENDEMAN led us in the pledge, then BOB MORGAN led us in "America The Beautiful" and two songs he and pianist, GEORGE UBOGY, had handed out in celebration of the life of Ronnie Gilbert of the singing group, The Weavers. "On Top of Old Smokey" gave us no problem. "Tzena, Tzena" was a bit more complicated because it necessitated our clapping while holding the lyrics, as Bob instructed. Claps were few but the rhythm was steady and it was fun to sing something new. BILL DYNAN managed to tell a joke that wasn't offensive to women about a brass-_____ parrot and his not so intelligent airline-passenger neighbor.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: PETER UHRY was pushing RMA hats and golf shirts and afterwards did a brisk business. STEVE BOIES promoted the Chamber Players' "Spring Musicale" this Sunday at the Audubon Club. Tickets are \$100, but \$60 is deductible. Our attendance would be a fitting tribute to JIM DANIEL, past president of the Players, who passed away the morning of our meeting. Jim was a wonderful presence at the RMA, a devoted lover of classical music, and an inspiration for the Chamber Players.

RETURNEES: BOB PHILLIPS from Frankfurt, Germany and DICK ROBERTS from "somewhere!"

COMMITTEE REPORTS: VISITING: CHUCK STANDARD reported that ED BURNS is home now but told Chuck it had taken him 10 months to get there so don't expect him back at the RMA any time soon. Chuck couldn't find MEL MARGULIS phone number but knows he is home from Osborn House. **PROGRAM:** JOHN CARON prepped us for today's speaker, **Dr. David Levinson**, President of Norwalk Community College. John

provided us with a brief review of free public education in America, beginning in the 1830's and noted that a century ago an elementary education was sufficient to find a well-paying job, but today you must have at least two years of college. GEORGE UBOGY told us about next week's speaker: **Dr. Sherman Bull**, who, not content with a distinguished medical career, decided to climb Mt Everest at 64 years of age—the oldest person ever to do so. After his talk, YHS will be interested in finding out how many golfers stop riding carts. **MEMBERSHIP:** HORST TEBBE reported 125 members, 2 candidates—Charlie Jensen and Rick Holz—and 2 guests: Connie Pappas (g/o HARRY LEIGH) and Michael Ambrosian (g/o BILL SALTSMAN). The **Birthday Boys** are: GEORGE DIPPY (81), BILL HORTON (88), BILL SALTSMAN (89), and TONY PARISI (83). Happy birthday, youngsters! And GEORGE and Nancy CHELWICK celebrated 66 years of wedded bliss! **VOLUNTEERS:** ROS CURTIS tallied 1176 hours by 75 members to outside agencies and 116 hours for RMA activities by 27 members. TAD LARRABEE reported the most hours, with 79. The Melody Men are hereby recognized for their many hours of volunteering (587.5 total hours): TOM HEALY (50), JERRY SCHWENDEMAN (50), DON CONWAY (50), TIM NOLAN (50), CHUCK STANDARD (52.5), BOB MORGAN (45), ERF PORTER (42.5), JOHN ROMANS (45), JACK SWEGER (42.5), NICK TOURNILLON (45), BILL HOWLAND (37.5), TONY PARISI (17.5), and BOB LUCE (10). Thank you so much!

SPECIAL EVENTS: GERRY LESSUK reported that our day at the races (Belmont) on June 18 is wait-listed for its 10:30 a.m. departure. **IMPORTANT:** Men must wear a jacket and tie and women a dress or pant suit! Tanglewood/Boston Symphony on August 9 will cost \$125 and has 8 spots available.

SPECIAL REPORT: ARNOLD GORDON reported the statistics on volunteering that he and TAD LARRABEE had compiled, with caveats about season volunteering and under-reported hours. The facts: # of organizations: 75; number of volunteers: 67; most volunteered-for organizations after the RMA: Call-A-Ride, Meals-on-Wheels, hospital, RTM, Salvation Army, American Legion, St. Catherine's, Nathaniel Witherell, Recycle Center/Book.

GAMES PEOPLE PLAY: BRIDGE: KURT SCHAFFIR reported that 9 players cut the cards with TOM McEVOY having the most up his sleeve 89. REID MCINTYRE had closest to the pin on #15, thus spoiling the trifecta by YHS who had closest on #7 and the longest drive, showing how anticipation of being the CBB editor is a great motivator. In the inaugural post-round social session at the Fairways Restaurant, talk ranged from the idea of composting human remains to the provenance of the song "Chattanooga Choo-Choo," thus helping dispel the myth that the only thing golfers care about is golf.

TODAY'S PROGRAM: Dr. Levinson gave a very informative talk about Norwalk Community College and the success of its students. NCC has some 6500 students, 2/3 of whom are part-time. Because of the part-time nature of their education, most students take 5-6 years to complete the 2-year degree, so NCC is working to try to get most of its students to full-time status. The majority of its student body is non-

Caucasian and they come from 80 different countries. Over 70% need at least 1 pre-college course when they arrive, so NCC is partnering with high schools, including GHS, to make sure students are prepared when they graduate high school. NCC has a robust Life-Learners Institute and is doing well in offering courses that lead to jobs in health, business, criminal justice, and early childhood education. Many educators from the Greenwich school system were at the talk and the total attendance was 114 people.

Gran Burgess -Editor (YHS)

SPECIAL EVENTS

Open to all members, spouses, candidates, and guests. Checks made out to RMA.

June 18: Belmont Race Track, \$75, Restaurant: Belmont Room (Dress Code). Wait list.

August 9: Tanglewood/Boston Symphony, \$125, Restaurant: Apple Tree Inn. 8 places available.

NEXT WEEK'S SPEAKER

Dr. Sherman Bull on climbing Mt. Everest and other wonderful activities of the active life.

Visit our website at www.greenwichrma.org