

CIGAR BOX BULLETIN

Volume 62, No. 7

June 18, 2014

President BOB PHILLIPS rang the opening bell, bringing the assembled members to their feet to join CHUCK STANDARD in reciting the pledge. TOM HEALY, with JIM SANTORA at the keyboard, led the singing of *The Star Spangled Banner* and followed by the usual two cheery ditties. TOM continued in his capacity of humorous Recording Secretary.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: **Returnees** were BILL CLEWORTH from Canada, MIKE BALINT from Florida and GERRY BOYLE from Nantucket.

President BOB PHILLIPS took the occasion to introduce the Board Members: **Officers:** RALPH VIGGIANO, 1st VP, PETER UHRY, 2nd VP DON CONWAY, 3rd VP, STEVE BOIES, Treasurer, and GRAN BURGESS, Secretary. **Immediate Past Presidents:** MIKE SMITH and GEORGE SHADDOCK, **Directors at Large**, ARNOLD GORDON and TAD LARABEE.

Committee Heads: JIM FAHY, Membership, JOHN DeCSEPEL, Programs, BERNARD SCHNEIDER, Publicity and RICH LIMBACHER, **Special Events**. BOB PHILLIPS then announced that September 8, 2014, will be *RMA 60th Anniversary Recognition Day*. First Selectman PETER TESEI will deliver a Proclamation honoring the occasion. ARNOLD GORDON and TAD LARABEE are working on improving our Guest-to-Candidate process. Treasurer STEVE BOIES presented our financial report (copies were available) and our budget of \$32,000 for the coming year. TIM DOLAN: the next ROMEO lunch (\$40) will take place at the Stanwich Club on June 25.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: **Visiting:** CHUCK STANDARD reported that BOB MEYERS and MARTIN GRAYSON are still in recovery mode. **Membership:** JIM FAHY told us that there were 128 in attendance – 124 members; 2 candidates – GIL RAKER and WAYNE DeVRIES; and 2 guests: BRUNO SCHRAGE, guest of KURT SCHAFFIR and CHARLIE LAND, guest of PETER UHRY. **Birthday Boys:** DAN BARETT, 80; BOB CAREY, 82; JOHN MARGENOT, 86; RALPH MASTOLONI, 92, WALTER KIRKMAN, 87 and ARTHUR ROBINSON, 83. We were happy to note also that BILL and MARTHA HOWLAND celebrated their 50th anniversary. **Program:** BOB WYLIE announced that The Honorable David Tobin, retired Probate Court justice, will be next week's speaker. (Our meeting was interrupted by a fire drill, overseen by JOHN CRAINE, our Fire Marshall. Everyone exited through the correct door and returned safely.) **Volunteer:** ARNOLD GORDON then reported 473 hours for outside agencies by 55 members, and 104 hours for RMA activities by 28 members. GEORGE DAVIS had the most hours – 50.

FUN AND GAMES: **Bridge:** KURT SCHAFFIR reported 12 players: GRANT PERKINS first with 4350 points; LEN SAARI second with 3720; and KURT third with 2350. **Golf:** PETER UHRY told us that JIM MacKAY was closest to the pin on #7, and had the longest drive on #17; ROS CURTIS was closest to the pin on #15. **Walkers:** TAD LARABEE said they will start Thursday at 10:00 a.m. at the Eastern Civic Center.

TODAY'S SPEAKER:

PETER UHRY introduced **Andy Shapiro**, owner of Stamford Hyundai car dealership. Mr. Shapiro's interesting and thought provoking talk dealt with two topics: The pros and cons of the "Tesla business model" which allows car buyers to deal directly with the manufacturer, bypassing the card dealer – obviously strongly resisted by dealers; and the potential impact of "driverless cars" – now coming off the drawing board -- on how we may use automobiles in the future.

KURT SCHAFFIR -Editor

SPECIAL EVENTS

Coordinators RICH LIMBACHER and GERRY LESSUK

Tanglewood – Sunday, July 27. Departure 9:15 a.m. at Eastern Civic Center; \$102 per person; Lunch at Appletree Inn; wait listed.

Goodspeed Opera Fiddler on the Roof – Thursday, August 7. Departure 9:30 a.m. Gelston House lunch; 4 openings.

New York 9-11 Museum – Thursday, October 2; Departure 8:45 a.m.; \$104 per person; Blue Water Grill lunch; 21 tickets available.

NEXT WEEK'S SPEAKER

The Honorable **David Tobin**, retired Probate Court justice

Visit our website at www.greenwichrma.org and also on [Vimeo.com](https://www.vimeo.com)