



CIGAR BOX BULLETIN



**Retired Men's Association of
Greenwich, Inc.** 60 Years of
Fellowship and Community Service
Visit us on the web at www.greenwichrma.org

Here are the volunteers who publish this Bulletin each week for your enjoyment. **Editor/Chairman:** Chet Risio. **Scribes:** Av Rivel, Gran Burgess, Kurt Schaffir, Arnold Gordon, Ed Farrell, Chet Risio, Gerry Lessuk, Steve Elliot, and George Stockbridge, Emeritus. **Archivist:** Harold Frost. **Format and Layout:** Gene Schwartz, Jack Cuff, and Andrzej Mazurek. **Reproduction/Distribution:** Chet Risio.

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June 21, 2017

DON CONWAY opened the meeting at 10AM, and asked STEVE MARINO to lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance. CHUCK STANDARD then directed us in singing *God Bless America, You're a Grand Old Flag, and Yankee Doodle Dandy*, his favorites. Jokester of the day BOB LUCE told a droll story about a nurse, who was a nun, using a bedpan to pour gas into her stranded car.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

DON CONWAY reiterated that you don't have to live in Greenwich, and you don't have to be retired to join RMA, asking us to spread the word to potential new members. He also informed us that new Medicare cards for 2018 will be coming to us in the mail. DON highlighted RETURNEES: ERF PORTER from Beaverton, OR and various places in NY State; also GERRY BOYLE and BOB CAREY, from CA.

MEMORIAL: BOB PHILLIPS gave a memorial biography of member ROGER S. PIERCE, who passed on May 17. Born in 1929, educated at Scarsdale High School, Kimball Academy in NH, and Dartmouth. In WWII he was commissioned as an officer in the U.S. Navy, serving on the West Coast. His business career was with Hercules, Inc. a diversified company where he was an executive in its Paper Technologies Group. In retirement ROGER was active in RMA golf and tennis groups, and volunteered for Call-a-Ride, where he became its president. He and wife Ann raised three children.

PROGRAM: STEVE MYERS announced that today's speaker will be **Peter Sutton**, Executive Director of Bruce Museum. See speaker report below. BOB PHILLIPS reported that next week's speaker will be **Larry Kantor**, talking about how immigration, tax reform and international trade policies in Washington may affect our economy.

COMMITTEES: CHUCK STANDARD urged us to call JOE COLEMAN who is recovering from illness. JOE would enjoy your call at 203-622-4148.

MEMBERSHIP: HORST TEBBE revealed that 104 members, one candidate, Alex Gaspodinoff, and these five guests were present: Fred Boodstein, g/o FRANK SCARPA; Marshall Toppo, g/o CHET RISIO; Larry Spann, g/o JIM FAHY; Paul Keezer, g/o BOB MORGAN, and George Ray, g/o TOM NACINOVICH.

SPECIAL EVENTS: MIKE FERRARESE gave details (see below)

VOLUNTEERS: GRANT PERKINS advised that for the week ending June 21, 407 hours were reported by 42 men for outside activities, and 137 hours for RMA activities. JOHN FEBLES reported the most hours, 32.

GAMES: We gave a rousing ovation to KURT SCHAFFIR as he handed over the chairmanship of the Bridge Group to ANDRZEJ MAZUREK. KURT led the group for 12 years attracting new members and enlarging it to a group of 15 to 20 players. ANDRZEJ then dealt us the **BRIDGE** scores: JOHN FEBLES with 2780; TONY COCCHI with 2700 and ANDRZEJ himself with 2510.

JOHN AWDZIEWICZ swung into **GOLF:** There were 15 players. RUSS HARDEN was closest to pin on #7; MIKE SMITH on #15. PETER TUNLEY had longest ball, and lowest score at 87. Four players were under 100. JOHN AWDZIEWICZ will be captain next week. No golf July 4.

HEARTS: PETER BERG reported he was the winner in both games 1 and 2; JACK SWEGER won in game 3.

TODAY'S SPEAKER:

Dr. Peter Sutton, Executive Director of The Bruce Museum, is an expert in Flemish and Dutch paintings. He is a veteran of Christie's auction house. The Bruce brings in 2500 school children annually, has 14 to 16 exhibitions/year. He expects that by 2020, as many as 90,000 visitors will come. He has just finished the Alfred Sisley exhibition, is exhibiting "Canvas and Cast" (paintings and sculptures) until fall. He buys paintings from smaller auction houses which become the property of The Bruce, including paintings by the Cos Cob School of paintings of the Mianus River. Also currently is a photography exhibit featuring Andy Warhol's 1970's pictures and "endangered species" collection. In addition, there are paintings by Greenwich High School students, in an exhibit called "I create 2017". He spoke of Fall 2017, Spring 2018 and Fall 2018 exhibits, including a Toulouse-Lautrec portrait exhibition on loan from the Herakleidon Museum in Athens and a "Treasures of the Earth" minerals show. After that, The Bruce will be shut for 6 to 8 months for the reconfiguration of the interior of the present building and the construction of a building to the south, and one to the east, almost doubling the museum's exhibition space. In reply to questions, he reported that 45% of the about \$36 million has been raised and added that more than \$200 million worth of private collections have been contributed to The Bruce since the fundraising campaign began. The "new Bruce" will be a major destination for art lovers from all over the country and world.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Open to members, spouses, candidates and guests. Checks made out to RMA and must be received within two weeks following the reservation or the reservation will be canceled. Trip coordinators are MIKE FERRASRESE (203 554-0678) and ABBEY SMOLER (203 531-0236)

THE MARK TWAIN HOME AND MUSEUM, July 20, cost p/p \$76 with box lunch, bus leaves St. Catherine's 8:45am. Status: 3 openings.

SOUND WATERS CRUISE, August 31, cost p/p \$35, snacks served, your own car to boat. Boarding time from Stamford pier 1:30pm for a cruise 2 to 4:30pm. Status: 21 places available.

GOODSPEED THEATER, the musical "Oklahoma", September 21, cost p/p \$120, lunch at Gelston House; bus leaves St. Catherine's 9:45am. Status: 35 places available.

GEORGE STOCKBRIDGE, **Scribe of the Week**. Visit us at our website:
www.greenwchrma.org

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