



CIGAR BOX BULLETIN

Retired Men's Association of Greenwich, Inc.

37 Lafayette Place, Greenwich, CT 06830

www.greenwichrma.org

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"Idealism is the noble toga that political gentlemen drape over their will to power."

Aldous Huxley

JERRY SCHWENDEMAN called the meeting to order at 10:02am. We met temporarily at the Eastern Civic Center in Old Greenwich.

BOB PHILLIPS led the pledge to the flag. TOM HEALY encouraged us to sing a capella *The Star-Spangled Banner*, *Heart of My Heart* and a rousing *Yankee Doodle Dandy*.

ARNOLD GORDON recited the poem *Ode to the RMA* written by MARTIN GRAYSON in 2014.

Ode to the RMA

In Greenwich fair city just by the sound
A group of good fellows once gathered around
All were retired but still in their prime
And wishing to donate part of their time
To doing good things that had to be done
But still doing things that are active and fun
So many years later and still going strong
They meet every Wednesday in friendship and song
As word of their deeds redoubled and grew
The membership blossomed to more than a few
And honors poured in from city and town
To signal this group of such shining renown
As we celebrate them on their anniversary day
Let's give a loud cheer for the RMA!!

He concluded with several humorous bon mots and a bawdy joke about what part of the human body goes into heaven first.

Prez **JERRY** announced returnees: **WAYNE DEVRIES** from Maine, **PETER UHRY** from Boothbay, Maine, and **BOB MORGAN** from Scotland.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Today's speaker: BOB PHILLIPS told us Larry Kantor, economist at Barclay's Bank, will speak on the economy.
2. Next week's speaker: JIM FISHBEIN advised us Gary Rossi, Security Expert, will speak on *Practical tips to ensure Personal Security and avoid Cyber Crime*.
3. PETER UHRY advised us of the uncertain future of the Eastern Civic Center where we were meeting. It is projected that \$15 million tax dollars will be spent

on improvements. PETER encouraged members to be aware of the possibilities being considered.

4. TAD LARRABEE informed us that the informal picnic is held every Wednesday evening at Tod's Point.

COMMITTEES

MEMBERSHIP: HORST TEBBE reported there were 79 members in attendance and no guests. He also added there were 24 members who had not paid their dues and were about to become inactive. Upon payment they would be back to active status. The Birthday Boys were PETER UHRY, 80, TOM NACINOVICH, 79.

VOLUNTEER HOURS: For the week of June 26, 2019 there were 258 hours by 29 RMA members and 117 inside hours by 20 members. TONY COCCHI was listed as recording these figures.

GAMES OF THE RMA

BRIDGE: PETER STERN reported there were four players. RON FRIEDMAN 2990, RON MURRAY 2950, and TONY COCCHI 2260 were the top three.

PICKLEBALL: TONY COCCHI said they were rained out.

TENNIS: JOHN KNIGHT noted that there were four players on one of the most beautiful days of this summer. Reminder; tennis every Monday 9-11 and pickleball every Thursday 9-11 at the Loughlin Ave. courts in Cos Cob.

HEARTS: TOM HEALY indicated that on June 19, there were three tables with twelve players at which seven games were completed. Winners: GRANT PERKINS, JACK WEIR, TOM MORONEY, LOU TROVATO, TOM HEALY (3). Moonshots: GRANT PERKINS (3) LOU TROVATO, JOHN KAVANAGH, JACK SWEGER (3). Next week's captain is MICHAEL AMBROSINO.

GOLF: ROS CURTIS reported nine players appeared, but the games were rained out. GEOFFREY BURGE will host the next two weeks.

TAI CHI: Will Morrison said there was nothing pertinent.

SPECIAL EVENTS

JIM FISHBEIN informed us that the tour of the Pepsico Kendall Sculpture Gardens is on Sept. 19.

The RMA's ARTHUR STAMPLEMAN will lead a guided tour of the 45 works by the 20th century's leading artists. An upscale buffet lunch will follow at the Doral Arrowwood

resort. The full buffet will cost \$40 and the extensive salad bar is \$25. Transportation will be self-drive.

TODAY'S SPEAKER

BOB PHILLIPS introduced Lawrence Kantor, PhD. Economist, appearing before us for the fourth time. He shared with us an extensive picture of our economy, touching upon elements including interest rates, income, demographics, labor markets and the dynamics of Wall Street and the Fed. We learned of the benefits of free trade and perils of tariffs. The breadth of his financial knowledge is quite evident including his concern with the effects of climate change. Solutions are fraught with controversy. He suggests we should approach resolution as we did with our space projects. Committing time, talent, and funds to the goal of altering climate change.

In addition, he suggests that learned groups around the world should dedicate their time and expertise in finding workable answers. We are always impressed and enlightened by Dr. Kantor's presentations.

NEXT WEEK' SPEAKER

Gary Rossi, Security expert at Fidelity Global Security, his topic; *Practical Tips to ensure personal security and avoid Cyber Crime.*

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