



CIGAR BOX BULLETIN

Retired Men's Association of Greenwich, Inc.

60 Years of Fellowship and Community Service
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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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President DON CONWAY opened the meeting at 10:00AM and asked JOHN CRAINE to lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Song Leader JACK SWEGER selected the following songs: 'Your' A Grand Old Flag, By The Light Of The Silvery Moon and Good Night Irene', and the singing was ably supported by GEORGE STOCKBRIDGE on the piano. GEORGE UBOGY told the obligatory Joke of a lawyer coming home after a trying day in court trying to save a client from a hanging office and an unsympathetic wife who gave him a misunderstood phone message. The setup line was more humorous than the punch line. LARRY SCHMITZ, a 20 year member of the RMA is relocating to Louisville, Kentucky. This is LARRY'S last meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GEORGE STOCKBRIDGE who leads the Shakespeare Group advised that the Group needs at least four (4) members to continue this activity. The Group meets Thursday afternoons, between 2:30 and 4:30PM at the home of one of the members, either to listen and view lectures by a Shakespeare Professor or view a DVD of one of Shakespeare's plays. If interested, contact GEORGE at 203-698-0710.

SERGE GABRIEL invited the members to the flag raising ceremony on this coming July 4th at 9:00 AM at Greenwich Town Hall on Field Point Road. Greenwich Scouts will parade the flags of the original 13 colonies and honor descendants of the founding families. Refreshments will follow inside Town Hall. President DON said there was one returnee, GERRY BOYLE from Marblehead, MA.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

VISITING: CHUCK STANDARD reported that JOE COLEMAN, TIM NOLAN, HARRY TWITCHELL and JIM FAHY were all at Nathaniel Witherell, rehabbing or for some other medical reason.

PROGRAMS: BOB PHILLIPS gave some background on today's speaker, Laurence Kantor, who has been a long time leader in the financial industry and held lead economist positions with major financial corporations. ARNOLD GORDON advised that next week will feature a panel discussion by three Connecticut State Representatives, Fred Camillo, Livvy Floren and Mike Bocchino to discuss the state of affairs in Hartford. ARNOLD said this presents a golden opportunity to get answers so he urges members to come with questions. If for any reason you do not want to ask the question yourself, email them to ARNOLD, ajgordo@verizon.net or call him at (203-273-5779).

MEMBERSHIP: HORST TEBBE counted the number in attendance to be 110 members, 3 candidates (Paul Keeler, Rob Bloom and Alex Gospodinoff) and one guest, Larry Posner, g/o HAROLD KUPLESKY. **Happy birthday** was extended to JOHN CARON, 93, HOLLISTER STURGES, 78 and DAN FREDLAND, 73.

INDUCTION: ALEX GOSPODINOFF was inducted by acclimation. His sponsors were BILL WIGGINS and VIN MASI. ALEX is an 88 year resident of Greenwich, attended the University of Connecticut, earned a degree in Horticulture, served in the Navy in World War II, and is still active in business as a landscape architect.

VOLUNTEER HOURS: MIKE HAYDEN presented the following hours: 346 outside hours by 42 members; 155 inside hours by 30 members; top RMA member hours 29 by ARNOLD GORDON.

SPECIAL EVENTS: Upcoming Special Events were presented by ABBEY SMOLER. Details are covered below.

SCOREBOARD

GOLF: JOHN AWDZIEWICZ reported that 12 players played 18 holes and one played 9 holes. JIM BOARDMAN had the lowest score with 87 and 4 others scored under 100. JAY SCHONDORF was closest to the pin on the 7th hole, JOHN closest on the 15th, and JIM had the longest drive on the 17th hole.

BRIDGE: ANDRZEJ MAZUREK said that seven players participated with the following three having the highest scores: RON FRIEDMAN, 3690 points; WAYNE DE VRIES, 3390 points and GRANT PERKINS 3200 points.

HEARTS: PETER BERG reported that eight players attended. Winners on Table One were LES CHEIKEN and MICHAEL AMBROSINO who won twice. On Table Two winners were JACK SWEGER and DON CONWAY.

TODAY'S SPEAKER

Economist **Laurence Kantor**, in his second appearance as an RMA speaker, covered several economic issues facing the current administration and its impact on the US economy. Of the current indicators, unemployment at 4.3% is low but so is growth at 2%. Labor force is down significantly from the period 1960 to 1990 when it was 2.5% compared to 1% now. Labor force expansion is not matching people going on retirement. On immigration there is a need for more workers to pay Federal retirement and health care costs, and many jobs require skills which are not available. Tax reform both for corporations and individuals is needed to improve the economy and increase the workforce.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Open to all members, spouses, candidates and guests. For reservations contact trip coordinators ABBEY SMOLER (203-531-0236) and MIKE FERRARESE (203-554-0678). Checks should be made out to the RMA and must be received within two weeks following the making of the reservation(s) or they will be cancelled. All buses depart from the St. Catherine Church parking lot.

Mark Twain Home and Museum - July 20, 2017, cost \$76, Box Lunch, departs 8:45AM. Status: 3 places open

Sound Waters Cruise - August 31, 2017, cost \$35, snacks, self transport, Boarding time at Stamford pier is 1:30pm for a cruise 2 to 4:30PM. Status: 12 places open.

Goodspeed Opera House/ musical "Oklahoma" - September 21, 2017, cost \$120, lunch at Gelston House, departs 9:45AM. Status: 24 places open.

NEXT WEEK'S SPEAKERS

A panel discussion featuring three CT State Representatives talking about "What's Happening in Hartford" - so here's your chance to get your questions answered.

GERRY LESSUK, Scribe per il giorno

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