

CIGAR BOX BULLETIN

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, Jim Butler, Arnold Gordon, Ed Farrell; **Martin Grayson**, Emeritus; **Format and Layout:** Gene Schwartz, Fred Waldron; **Archivist:** Harold Frost; **Printing:** Chet Risio, Larry Schmitz

Volume 63, No. 12

July 22, 2015

"Lives touched by music are better lives"... Marty Monson, CEO Barbershop Harmony Society.

At 10:01 sharp, our president RALPH VIGGIANO rang the meeting to order, and STEVE MARINO led the Pledge of Allegiance. Song leader CHUCK STANDARD led us in the singing of "God Bless America", "You're a Grand Old Flag", and "Take Me Out to the Ball Game". BOB MORGAN ably accompanied on the Steinway. President RALPH gave recognition to AL KNIGHT, STEVE MYERS, HOLLISTER STURGES, JIM FISHBEIN, CHET RISIO and BOB ROBINS. He announced the eulogy for WIN ADKINS would be given next week and the memorial service will be held August 1 at the Round Hill Community Church, 11 AM. RALPH is looking for a new Chairman of Tennis for the upcoming season beginning in September. Anybody interested in playing RMA winter tennis indoors at the Old Greenwich Tennis Academy, needs to see RALPH VIGGIANO for the details before the season starts in September. After the schedule is in place, January would be the next available time to play.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

JOHN CRAINE touted the Raft-Up Thursday, July 30. Currently there are 4 boats, and most places are already taken. See JOHN if you can provide an additional boat and space for riders, and the sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board. JOHN DeCSEPEL advertised a Dixieland Jazz concert being held tonight at Roger Sherman Baldwin part from 7:15 to 8:45. TAD LARRABEE reminded us of the RMA Picnic on Sept. 10. He needs volunteers. See bulletin board and sign up! Also his walking group will meet tomorrow at 10 AM at Eastern Civic Center to walk in ideal weather. TOM HEALY proudly announced that our MELODY MEN will be singing the National Anthem next Wednesday, July 29 at Citifield. Two tickets for bus transportation and the game are available @\$74 subject to prior sale.

MEMORIALS: BILL DYNAN sadly eulogized two RMA members, MICHAEL GALLELA and FREDERICK (Bill) GETTLER. BILL died July 14, and his memorial Mass will be celebrated on August 3, 10:30a.m. at St. Catherine's Chapel in Riverside. MICHAEL passed on June 30. He was a long-time employee of Pitney Bowes. Burial was July 11, 2015 from Sacred Heart RC Church in Stamford after a memorial Mass. **RETURNEES:** GERRY BOYLE from Texas and Minnesota; SAM MARASSO from Keene, NH.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: **Visiting:** CHUCK STANDARD told us that RICH LIMBACHER is leaving Nathaniel Witherell . **Program:** Today's speaker was announced by GEORGE UBOGY. She is Amanda Poole, daughter of JACK POOLE. NEXT WEEK'S SPEAKER will be **Nelson Tebbe**, his proud dad, HORST TEBBE announced.

Membership: HORST then advised us that today's attendance was 102 members, 3 candidates, David Burleson, Keating Harmann and Michael Ambrisino; and three guests: Robert Whitby, g/o BOB ROBERTS; Lynton Kaufman, g/o GEORGE STOCKBRIDGE; and Jim Waterman, g/o JOHN DeCSEPEL. The **birthday boys** are KEITH SMITH, 76; WALTER COUPE, 89; WALTER ANDERES, 87. Many happy returns, gentlemen! President VIGGIANO tipped us off that the birthday cake today is for KURT SCHAFFIR, who will be a youthful 90 tomorrow. ABBY SMOLER, in the absence of GERRY LESSUK, gave the **Special Events** report (see details below). For **Volunteers**, DOUG FRANCEFORT reported that 53 RMA members volunteered 507 hours at outside agencies; and 31 hours for RMA activities.

GAMES: For **Bridge** – KURT SCHAFFIR dealt up the report that there were 16 players on July 15. JOE ROE came in first with 4590 points; JOHN FEBLES second with 4280, and WAYNE DEVRIES with 4220. For **Golf** -- KIP SCHULZE told us that there were 12 golfers, 2 of whom played 9 holes. Five of the other 10 players broke 100. RICH BARTHOLOMEW was low man with 86, and was also closest to the pin on hole 17. MIKE RYAN was closest on hole 15. RALPH VIGGIANO hit the longest ball.

OUR SPEAKER, Amanda Poole, is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker for substance abuse at Greenwich Hospital's Addiction Center, dealing with alcohol and drug problems, and recovery therefrom. She gave a case history of "Joe" with several DUI's under his belt, experiencing panic attacks, his family confronting him about his excessive drinking, his showing up at work hung over, his resulting deep depression. He was detoxified in a 2-week stay at the Center, then rehabilitation. He has been sober for several years, although he will always be a recovering alcoholic. He expresses his joy of recovering his self-respect and a new life. "There is no shame in addiction" Poole emphasized. She especially praised the Alcoholics Anonymous groups (held every day of the week here at various church halls). You can get AA information completely anonymously by calling 203-869-5221. The AA office is in the Senior Center basement level. She highly recommends the book "Under the Influence" by Milan and Ketchum, and the website www.samhsa.gov – Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. Their treatment Locator is on homepage.

SPECIAL EVENTS

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

Tanglewood: Boston Symphony Sunday, August 9. Status: closed. Departs 9am Easter Civic Center.

Westchester Broadway Theater, Thursday, Sept. 17, \$85 p/p, including lunch. Waiting list.

Goodspeed Opera House, Thursday, Oct. 22, lunch at Gelston House, \$115 p/p. Leaves St. Catherine's at 10am. Places are available. For details, go to GERRY LESSUK (gerrless@att.net) 203-698-9451.

NEXT WEEK'S SPEAKER: Nelson Tebbe will speak on recent decisions by the U.S. Supreme Court.

Visit our website at www.greenwichrma.org

Respectfully submitted, **GEORGE STOCKBRIDGE**

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