

CIGAR BOX BULLETIN

Volume 62, No. 12

July 23, 2014

"If the government takes into its hands that which the man ought to do for himself, it will inflict upon him greater mischiefs than all the benefits he will have received." Gladstone

President BOB PHILLIPS rang his bell precisely at the stroke of 10am. STEVE MARINO led the Pledge of Allegiance to Old Glory. With GEORGE UBOGY at the Steinway accompanying, song leader JERRY SCHWENDEMAN waved his arms as we sang "Happy Birthday" to mark the anniversary of our nation's independence; "Praise the Lord and Pass the Ammunition"; and "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow" to salute CHUCK STANDARD's recent honor presented to him at Met Stadium before an appreciative ballpark crowd. TOM HEALY was jokester of the day, with a few stories set on a golf course. BOB PHILLIPS spoke of the "generations of positive values" that have been displayed over the 50 years of RMA's history.

Announcements: AV RIVEL advised us that Seniornet has a new name and a new business model. Starting in September, courses will include I-Pad, I-Phone, Apple TV/Air Play, Smartphone overview, Facebook and Skype, short courses in Windows 7 and 8, photography, genealogy, Word and Excel. Schedules available in August.

JOHN CRAINE announced that July 24's scheduled "Raft-Up" has been postponed, because of threatening weather predictions, to August 14. Boating and non-boating members, spouses and guests are invited. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board. BOB PHILLIPS welcomed back GEORGE DIPPY from Vail, Colorado; JOHN VECCHIONE from Tuscany, Italy; and ARNOLD STANCELL from Northfield, MA and Washington, DC .

Committee Reports: BILL DYNAN read a **memorial** for candidate Herbert Frederick Schwartz, who passed on July 15 just short of 79 years old. His career had been in law, litigating intellectual property law matters. He was known for his ocean racing prowess, having won major regattas. He was a member of Riverside Yacht Club.

CHUCK STANDARD reported on **visiting**: BOB JOHNSON is in rehab at Nathaniel Witherall; MIKE HARRIS is in rehab at Edge Hill, and STEVE PIERSON is scheduled to come home today. He welcomed back RON KLINGNER, to applause from the membership.

HOLLISTER STURGES told us about this week's **speaker**. See details below.

Inductee: Bruno Schrage was introduced by sponsors AV RIVEL and KURT SCHAFFIR. He was warmly voted in as a new member with a hearty chorus of AYE! BRUNO got his university education in physics at the University of Milan, Italy, and served as operations manager of research in various roles. His peripatetic career has taken him to positions in Italy, Israel, UK and US. Please welcome him.

RICHARD LIMBACHER reported for **special events**. Details are given at the end of this report.

MARIO BONAPARTE advised us that only 405 **volunteer** hours were reported by 50 members, while 87 hours were given by 24 members to RMA activities. BOB CAREY had most hours at 36. Supposedly, guys, we specialize in volunteering. So why not report it to the man sitting by the door each Wednesday!

JIM FAHY reported for **membership**. 122 members, 3 candidates, and 2 guests brought us to a total of 127. In addition to BRUNO SCHRAGE, who emerged from candidate status to member today, the 2 other candidates were Don Hermann and Tom Fong. The guests were Anthony Piccoli and Frank Noelker, both hosted by RAY SLOAN. **"Happy Birthday"** was sung to: WALT COUPE, 88; WALT ANDERES, 86; CHARLIE MARSHALL, 84; KURT SCHAFFIR, 89 and ARTO SZABO, 79. Congratulations also go to JOHN CRAINE and his wife Mary celebrating 55 years of marriage Friday.

Games:

Bridge: KURT SHAFFIR reported 16 players this week. DAVE DOWNS scored 3750, followed by BOB UNDERWOOD at 3740 and KURT SCHAFFIR at 3240.

Golfers: LEON FREEMAN related that 20 golfers played this week. Lowest score was 85 by RICH BARTHOLOMEW; closest to pin 7 was REID McINTYRE; closest on 15 was JIM MACKAY; longest drive was by MIKE SMITH.

Summer Tennis: TED SPOOL invited all players to Monday and Thursday games at the town tennis courts on Loughlin Avenue in Cos Cob.

TODAY's PROGRAM: **Stephen Lash**, Chairman Emeritus of Christie's America on

"Art As an Asset Class. Is It or Isn't It?" He was one of 8 founders of Christie's America in the 1970's. He has auctioneered many events himself. Using slides and citing paintings from the 15th century through 19th century impressionists, pre-war and post-war 20th century, and current contemporary painters and sculptors, he reported a range of \$40 million paid in 1987 for a Van Gogh; to \$250 million paid in 2013 by a buyer in Qatar for a Cezanne. A spirited Q&A session, by members and many guests followed.

GEORGE STOCKBRIDGE -Editor

SPECIAL EVENTS

Trips are open to all members, their ladies, candidates and guests. Checks payable to "RMA".

RICHARD LIMBACHER reviewed the next three events, all of which are fully booked, with waiting lists on which he encourages you to get on:

Tanglewood, Sunday July 27. \$102 p/p with lunch at Appletree Inn. Leaves Eastern Civic Center 9:15 am.

Goodspeed Opera House, "Fiddler on the Roof" August 7, \$112 p/p, lunch at Gelston House, leaves St. Catherine's 9:30 am.

9/11 Museum October 2, \$104 p/p, lunch at Blue Waters Grill in Union Square.

For more information, contact RICH LIMBACHER 531-9515 or GERRY LESSUK 698-9451.

NEXT WEEK's SPEAKER

Raymond Stone about his service on USS Intrepid during WW2.

Extensive information about the RMA, including photos, is on our website at <http://www.greenwichrma.org>. Speaker videos can be viewed at <http://www.Vimeo.com>