

CIGAR BOX BULLETIN

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The bell was rung. Members continued to talk. The bell was rung again. Members continued to talk. Finally, ARNOLD GORDON took the bell into the coffee area, rang it in people's faces, and members came in for the meeting. We can do better.

Continuing his leadership, ARNOLD then led us in the pledge. YHS followed with "God Bless America," "Don't Sit Under the Apple Tree," and "Home on the Range," ably assisted by BOB MORGAN's tinkling ivories. PREXY BOB then congratulated the Melody Men on their stirring singing of the National Anthem at yesterday's Mets game, conducted by TOM "TOSCANINI" HEALY. WIN ADKINS accepted a flag on behalf of some 13 veterans attending the game, including the afore-mentioned TOSCANINI, RICH LIMBACHER, and TONY PARISI.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Sal Tesoro caught us up on the changes at the Senior Center for Computer Learning, started by our own FRED ELSER in 1998. Reflecting the times, classes will now focus on SKYPE, Facebook, iPads, and other instruments of social media, and classes will only last one day, or two at most. There are morning labs on Mondays and Fridays. The cost is still only \$5 for Senior Center members and \$10 for others. The Center needs volunteers to teach these classes, and Sal urged us to spread the word. **TENNIS:** RALPH VIGGIANO urged interested racqueteers to contact him, as the season starts in September. Email: bid2clubs@optonline.net. **RAFT UP:** TONY PARISI promised blue skies tomorrow for members, spouses, and friends. JOHN CRAINE's sailboat *Traces*, will be the starting point, so bring your own food and frosty bevs and come on down at noon to Greenwich Cove. Park near the Old Greenwich Yacht Club on Greenwich Point. **VOLUNTEERS:** GRANT PERKINS spoke about a significant development at the RMA: the declining number of volunteers. Volunteerism is an essential element of membership, yet a majority of members report zero hours of volunteering! To remedy this deplorable situation, the leadership is undertaking a series of talks about the volunteer opportunities available to members, both internal and external. External: MIKE SMITH has driven for Call A Ride for 12 years. Volunteers drive seniors anywhere they want to go in Greenwich. About 55 drivers provide rides to some 1200-1400 riders every month, averaging about 3 hours per day. You can sign up as a fill-in driver or for a regular half-day slot. JIM FAHY is one of the dispatchers, so see him or Mike for further info. Internal: GEORGE STOCKBRIDGE invited any member who likes to write or enjoys recording what's going on around him to volunteer to be a CBB scribe. Not only is this job important in helping us stay connected with each other, but it is the official history of the RMA. The skill set is minimal, so if you speak English, know how to type, and can attach a document to an email, see George or any scribe and sign up! With numerous volunteers, you write the CBB only about once every 2 months.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: **VISITING:** CHUCK STANDARD reported BOB JOHNSON sounds well, STEVE PIERSON went into rehab after his second head operation (no calls please), MOREY LINDEN is feeling his age and cannot attend meetings, and ED BURNS hopes to return soon. **PROGRAM:** JOHN DESCEPEL prepped us for Robert Henrey's talk and enticed us to tell all our wine connoisseur friends not to miss next week's Theresa Rogers, owner of Horseneck Liquors, who will speak about what makes her shop unique and other challenges of selling wines locally. **MEMBERSHIP:** JIM FAHY stunned us by saying a meek "hello" instead of his usual "Good morning." Still in shock, members may not have heard his report of 100 members in attendance, with 1 candidate (Burt Ehrlich) and 2 guests: Sal Tesoro, g/o STEPHEN MARINO and Jack Drinkwater, g/o PETER UHRY. The membership recovered enough to lustily sing "Happy Birthday" to JOE RINDLER (71), BOB KAVEE (80), BOB UNDERWOOD (88), BILL CORDNER (96), NICK MECCA (86), BRUNO SCHRAGE (76) and DICK BARTHOLOMEW (77). **VOLUNTEERS:** WALT HOWE reported 364 hours for outside agencies by 44 members and 138 hours for RMA activities by 29 members. TAD LARRABEE logged the most hours with 43. Considering that's 6 hours per day, one wonders what he did with the rest of his life! **SPECIAL EVENTS:** RICH LIMBACHER reported on a wonderful trip last week to see *Fiddler On The Roof* at Goodspeed and urged us all to see it in its extended week. Next up: the trip to the 911 Memorial Museum on October 2 at \$104/pp: wait-listed; and back to the Goodspeed on October 30 for *HOLIDAY INN*, still plenty of room.

GAMES PEOPLE PLAY: **BRIDGE:** KURT SCHAFFIR reported 13 players shuffled and dealt, with AL HARTIG the winner at 3880, WAYNE DEVRIES following with 3720, and DAVE DOWNS scoring 2720. **GOLF:** Not to be outdone, NICKY ACHIWA also reported 13 players. Could it be one day bridge is more popular than golf? If so, it is the fault of so much that is wrong today: climate change: The golfers had to play in a cloudy day with sporadic rain. Nevertheless, 6 out of 10 18-holers scored under 90. ROS CURTIS was closest on #7, repeated the feat on #15. NICKY "ROCKET" ACHIWA had the longest drive on #17. Our fearless leader, PETER UHRY returns to the captainship next week. **SUMMER TENNIS:** TED SPOOL reported only 5 players for last Monday but hopes good weather will bring out more at 9 am tomorrow and next Monday at the Town Tennis Courts off Loughlin Avenue in Cos Cob.

TODAY'S PROGRAM: Robert Henrey gave a warm and wonderful talk, with slides, about the positive things that can happen when one has the courage to look back at one's life and write about it. The distance that comes with age allows one to look at things in a more hopeful way, he believes, and helps in coming to terms with mortality. The framework for his talk was the 1948 British film classic, *The Fallen Idol*. Fate landed him, an innocent 8-year-old who had never acted before, in the starring role. His book, *Through Grown-up Eyes*, details his coping with early stardom and the vicissitudes of later life in the US. An entertaining and heart-warming experience for our membership.

GRAN BURGESS- Editor

SPECIAL EVENTS

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

For more information, contact Rich Limbacher 531-9515 or Gerry Lessuk 698-9451

October 2: 911 Memorial. Cost: \$104. Departure: 8:45. Restaurant: Blue Water.
Status: wait list.

October 30: *Holiday Inn* at Goodspeed. Cost: \$112. Restaurant: Gelston House.
Departure: 9:45. Open.

NEXT WEEK

Theresa Rogers, owner of Horseneck Liquors, on wine and things.

Visit our website at www.greenwichrma.org and at [vimeo.com](https://www.vimeo.com).