



CIGAR BOX BULLETIN

Retired Men's Association of Greenwich, Inc.

37 Lafayette Place, Greenwich, CT 06830

www.greenwichrma.org

Chair/Editor: **Joe Mancinelli** Graphics: **Av Rivel**

Scribes: **Av Rivel, Arnold Gordon, Ed Farrell, Gerry Lessuk, George Stockbridge, Joe Mancinelli, Chet Risio, Frank Scarpa, Marshall Toppo** Archivist: **Harold Frost**. Format: **Jack Cuff, Andrzej Mazurek, Gene Schwartz**.
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"It is the way of heaven to take from those who have excess and give to those who are in need. The way of man is the opposite; it takes from those who have little and gives to those who have too much."

Lao-tzu, founder of Taoism

President JERRY SCHWENDEMAN opened the meeting at 10:00am and called on MICHAEL AMBROSINO to lead us in the pledge.

DON CONWAY, accompanied by GEORGE STOCKBRIDGE on the piano, led members in singing *The Battle Hymn of the Republic, My Wild Irish Rose* and *Side by Side*.

TOM HEALY followed with a joke about a couple who asked if marriage and divorce were allowed in heaven. They found it would take three months to find a priest in heaven to marry them, and, if they subsequently wanted a divorce, it would take six months to find a lawyer to represent them.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. ARNOLD GORDON announced that Aquarion Water Co. has arranged two-for-one ticket deals for you at great attractions across Connecticut. Your choices include Stamford Museum and Nature Center, Connecticut's Beardsley Zoo, Discovery Museum, Mystic Aquarium, Stepping Stones Museum for Children, Trumbull Marriott, Westport Country Playhouse and Mystic Seaport. Visit www.aquarionwater.com/freetickets for more information.

2. JOE MANCINELLI reported that arrangements for the RMA picnic on September 12 are being finalized, but suggested members still have time to solicit local businesses for raffle gifts. Appropriate recognition will be provided to businesses who participate.

3. JOHN CRAINE noted last week's Raft-Up was a great success, and that five boats and twelve members participated.

4. AV RIVEL announced that former RMA president George Shaddock was named Author of the Month by the Morcan Institute. George has published three novels since leaving Greenwich several years ago. 5. Visiting: MICHAEL AMBROSINO welcomed the return of RALPH VIGGIANO to the RMA after too long an absence. RALPH was greeted with great applause.

6. Returnees: STEVE BOIES from Bend, Oregon, and Calistoga, CA; AV RIVEL from Ireland; REID MCINTYRE from Niagara Falls and Ottawa, Canada; BRUNO SCHRAGE from The Netherlands, Germany, Italy and Switzerland.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PROGRAM: HOLLISTER STURGES noted that today's program will feature architectural historian Francis Morrone, who will discuss the architectural history of buildings in central Greenwich.

STEVE BOIES announced next week's speaker will be author and adjunct professor at Norwalk Community College, Mark Albertson, who will discuss *The Rise of Stalin*.

MEMBERSHIP: HORST TEBBE reported 102 members present at today's meeting. Today's birthday boys are: GENE SCHWARTZ 86, RON MURRAY 85, ED BLOOM 89, JIM BUTLER 77, VIN MASI 92.

VOLUNTEERS: ALAN GUNZBURG announced that for the week ending August 21, 2019, 33 members reported 317 volunteer hours for outside agencies and 26 members reported 162 volunteer hours for the RMA. AV RIVEL reported the most hours with 38 hours.

FUN AND GAMES

BRIDGE: TONY COCCHI announced that he and ANDRZEJ MAZUREK were winners last week, and that there will be no play this week because the YMCA is closed for the day.

TENNIS AND PICKLE BALL: JOHN KNIGHT announced that pickleball drew 13 players on August 15, and that combined pickleball and tennis drew 10 players on August 19.

HEARTS: TOM HEALY reported 12 players played last week. Winners were: JOHN KAVANAGH, PETER STERN, CHARLIE GRAVES, ANDY HOLMES, PETER BERG, TOM HEALY and DON CONWAY (2). Moon Shooters were JOHN KAVANAGH, PETER STERN, LOU TROVATO, ANDY HOLMES, PETER BERG and TOM HEALY (3).

GOLF: ROS CURTIS reported that six players played at the Griff, where two broke 100. Eight players played at West Point.

INDOOR TENNIS: MICHAEL AMBROSINO announced that the roster for this season is complete and that play will begin on Friday, September 6. MICHAEL also announced that he is stepping down as coordinator of indoor tennis, and that ANDY HOLMES, assisted by JOE MANCINELLI, will be taking over coordination responsibilities.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Open to all members, spouses, candidates and guests. Checks should be made out to RMA and must be received within two weeks of the reservation(s) or the reservation(s) will be cancelled. Busses depart from

the St. Catherine Church parking lot on Riverside Avenue opposite the Church. Contact persons are listed with each event.

PEPSICO SCULPTURE GARDENS TOUR: September 19, 2019. The tour will be led by ARTHUR STAMPLEMAN and will view 45 works by the 20th century's leading artists. An upscale buffet lunch will follow at the Doral Arrow Wood Resort. Cost of full buffet is \$40, or the extensive salad bar is \$25. Transportation is self-drive, arrive by 10:00am, status: full, reservations are still available. Contact JIM FISHBEIN or MAURICE KROHN.

WAVE HILL GARDENS, RIVERDALE, NY: October 10, 2019. A two-hour guided tour from 9 to 11:00am; free gift and 10% discount on any purchase. See www.wavehill.org. lunch at The Lobster House on City Island, cost \$110pp, bus departs at 8:00am, status: places available until September 18, 2019. Contact MAURICE KROHN.

TODAY'S SPEAKER

Francis Morrone, architectural historian, critic, and preservationist, provided members with a review of Greenwich's significant architectural landmarks, focused in large part, on how these structures reflect the best work of some of the leading architects of the last century. At the outset Mr. Morrone said that he tends to focus on what he calls the high streets of our cities and that his goal was to give us an appreciation of some of the quality architecture found in Greenwich. Some of the buildings he described were the Post Office downtown, whose designer, he noted made the decision to place an obelisk in front of the building, which perfectly fits with the building's curved entryway. He noted the "exceptional" iron work at the entry to the Old Town Hall, and how that structure differs in style from the Havemeyer School building across the way, and how well the styles of the buildings complement one another. Mr. Morrone noted the similarities in the styles of the current Town Hall (formerly Greenwich HS) and the Cos Cob School, noting that those similarities reflect the architect's focus on school design. He spent considerable time on the contributions of Alfred Bossom, who designed the Greenwich Savings Bank building and what he described as the beautiful models and clock over its entrance. Mr. Morrone's architectural tour included other significant buildings including St. Mary's Church (nice, but not great), The Putnam Trust Building on Greenwich Avenue and the YMCA Building.

NEXT WEEK'S SPEAKER

Mark Albertson

Subject: *The Rise of Stalin*

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RMA 2019 Calendar

Weekly Repetitive Activities			
Date	Time	Activity	Location
Mondays	9:00am to 11:00am	Summer Tennis or Pickleball	Loughlin Ave. Courts
Mondays	3:00 to 4:00	Tai Chi Beginner	Greenwich Sr. Center
Tuesdays April through September	Various 8:00am to 11:00am Tee Times	Golf	Harris Griffith Golf Course
Wednesdays	10:00am to 11:00am	RMA Weekly Meeting	First Presbyterian Church, One West Putnam Ave., Greenwich CT
Wednesdays	1:00 to 3:00pm	Hearts	Greenwich Civic Ctr. 90 Harding Road, Old Greenwich
Wednesdays	3:00 to 4:00	Tai Chi Advanced	Greenwich Sr. Center
Wednesdays	1:00 to 3:00pm	Bridge	Greenwich YMCA
Thursdays	9:00am to 11:00am	Pickleball	Loughlin Ave. Courts
Thursdays	9:00 AM	RMA Walking	Various TBD
Fridays	1:30pm to 3:00pm	Indoor Tennis	Old Greenwich Tennis Academy
RMA Special Events			

September 12, 2019	10:30am	ANNUAL RMA PICNIC	Greenwich Point Park
September 19, 2019	10:00am	PepsiCo Kendal Sculpture Gardens	Purchase, NY
October 10, 2019	9:00 to 11:00am	Wave Hill Tour	Riverdale, NY
November 13, 2019	12:00 Noon	ANNUAL RMA BANQUET	Tamarack Country Club