

CIGAR BOX BULLETIN



Retired Men's Association of Greenwich, Inc.

60 Years of Fellowship and Community Service
Visit us on the web at www.greenwichrma.org



Here are the volunteers who publish this Bulletin each week for your enjoyment. **Editor:** Chet Risio, Chair. **Scribes:** Gran Burgess, Av Rivel, Kurt Schaffir, Jim Butler, Arnold Gordon, Ed Farrell, George Stockbridge, Emeritus, Martin Grayson, Emeritus. **Archivist:** Harold Frost. **Format and Layout:** Gene Schwartz, Paul Levine, Jack Cuff. **Reproduction/ Distribution:** Chet Risio, Larry Schmitz.

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Back from Ireland and Scotland, PREXY PETE rang us to order, and then turned to TOM HEALY for leadership in the Pledge. JERRY SCHWENDEMAN then led us in singing "My Country Tis of Thee", took us on a "Sentimental Journey," and finished with that Eddie Cantor fave, "If You Knew Susie." BOB MORGAN tickled lustily in the background.

Corresponding Secretary ARNOLD GORDON told of a couple who were texting each other, she the romantic, he the realist. After receiving a text requesting many romantic thoughts, such as "If you're crying, send me a tear," our practical husband texted back from his perch in the bathroom asking for advice on what to send from there. Another joke involved fines in a home for seniors for intermingling of the sexes, and CHUCK STANDARD gave the punch line from the audience involving the cost of a Season's Pass.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

JOHN FEBLES renewed his plea for a used laptop for the RMA. Call him at 203-550-5049,

JERRY SCHWENDEMAN asked for volunteers for the annual picnic September 8. ARNOLD GORDON enticed us with the promise of the most fantastic raffle yet, with coupons at elite restaurants and expensive jewelry—and the possibility of a male guest striptease at your party.

RALPH VIGGIANO needs volunteers to sit at a table and talk about the RMA at the 22nd Annual Health and Wellness Expo on October 6 from 9am-1pm.

MIKE SMITH renewed his plea for volunteers for Call-A-Ride. The volunteer numbers are down and new blood is needed. It is a fun time and we provide a much-needed service for our community. Current volunteers include: REID MCINTYRE, JOHN TONER, WAYNE DE VRIES, MIKE RYAN, HORST TEBBE, and BOB KENNY.

Dorothy and GERRY MAYFIELD celebrate 60 years of marriage on August 26. Congratulations!

RETURNEES: PAUL LEVINE is back from Moscow, St. Petersburg, and Helsinki. PETE UHRY managed to drive safely on the left side while in Scotland and Ireland, and brought back tales of the fascination over there with badminton and field hockey in the Olympics, but, curiously, not with basketball. He also proclaimed Murphy's Stout better than Guinness, but RALPH V shouted his disagreement.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

VISITING: CHUCK STANDARD reported that TED SPOOL is home from his time at Yale Hospital, but is still fighting a low white blood cell count. JOE MALARA is the same, with some good days and some bad, but would love for you to call if you can. DOUG FRANCEFORT is recuperating well at Nathaniel Witherell from his knee replacement.

PROGRAM: HORST TEBBE previewed RTM Moderator **Tom Byrne's** talk later in the program. GERRY GIBIAN told us about Donna Spellman, the Executive Director of River House, who will speak next week. Gerry also again urged us to bring guests to the meeting so we can increase our membership.

MEMBERSHIP: HORST TEBBE reported 114 members, 3 candidates—Lou Rothman, Jim Boardman, and Tom Nacinovich—and 4 guests: Steven Marino g/o STEVEN MARINO; Larry Wentz g/o GERRY GIBIAN; Bob Kurzman g/o GERRY GIBIAN; Ken Hicks g/o STEVE MARINO, JOE DOWLING and WAYNE WRIGHT.

INDUCTEE: GERRY GIBIAN and WAYNE WRIGHT spoke highly of Lou Rothman, who spent his career in retail and commercial maintenance, belongs to the Rotary, and who enjoys biking, golf, and reading. Lou was voted in unanimously. Welcome, LOU!

BIRTHDAY BOYS: JIM BUTLER (74), VINCE MASI (89), TIM NOLAN (91), BOB MEYER (89), and BOB NEGELE (93). Happy birthday, fellas!

VOLUNTEERS: 376 outside hours by 62 men, 140 RMA hours by 37 men, with BOB ROBBINS totaling 30 hours. Thanks to all!

SPECIAL EVENTS: ABBEY SMOLER explained that the trip to Sagamore Hills and Teddy Roosevelt's home and museum on September 22 is filled but wait listed but there are 27 spaces available for the Goodspeed Opera House presentation of "Chasing Rainbows." See below for details.

SPORTS: BRIDGE: KURT SCHAFFIR reported 11 players, with JAMES CHUNG scoring 7200, GRANT PERKINS 4270, and JOHN FEBLES 4160 and currently playing at First Baptist Church since the Y is closed. **GOLF:** MIKE RYAN reported 10 players, four scoring below 100, with RALPH VIGGIANO carding a blistering 87. Closest to the

pin on #7: MIKE RYAN. Closest on #15: JACK WEIR. Longest drive: KIP SCHULZ. Mike hosts next week and PETER TUNLEY on September 6. Nathaniel Witherell is holding its 9th Annual Celebrity Golf Tournament at the Griff on September 21. Application sheet is on the bulletin board.

TODAY'S PROGRAM: Tom Byrne caught us up on all things RTM. He began with a history. From 1664-1933 Greenwich had a Town Meeting form of government. Our residents have always been very interested in—and vocal about—their government. In the old days it was not unusual to have 1000 people at a meeting. In 1933 the legislature voted for us to move to an RTM form of government. At 230 members, our RTM is bigger than all but 3 state legislatures! We have also been blessed to have had outstanding leadership at the Moderator level, including Prescott Bush for 17 years. There have been only 6 Moderators in the history of the RTM—versus 8 Popes in that period, and they serve for life! Tom detailed the many activities of the RTM, the most important of which is discussing and approving the BET budget. Our budget is about half a billion dollars! Tom is enthusiastic about this form of government because it means we don't only get to vote in November for a certain person, but we can vote many times throughout the year as we put into effect the many programs necessary to run a town like Greenwich. A very informative talk. And, by the way, you can volunteer to join the RTM!

Gran Burgess, Your Humble Scribe (YHS)

SPECIAL EVENTS

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

Sagamore Hills: Teddy Roosevelt home and museum. Sept. 22. Lunch is at Canterbury Oyster Bar. \$75/pp. Bus departs St. Catherine's at 8:30 am. Status: wait listed.

Goodspeed Opera House: "Chasing Rainbows," story of Dorothy and Toto. Oct. 27. Lunch at Gelston House. \$115/pp. Bus departs St. Catherine's at 10 am. Status: 27 openings.

NEXT WEEK

Donna Spellman, Executive Director of River House, will speak on aging.

Visit the RMA website at www.greenwichrma.org