



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/Chairman:** Chet Risio. **Scribes:** Av Rivel, Gran Burgess, Kurt Schaffir, Arnold Gordon, Ed Farrell, Gerry Lessuk, Steve Elliot, and George Stockbridge, Emeritus. **Archivist:** Harold Frost. **Format and Layout:** Gene Schwartz, Jack Cuff, and Andrzej Mazurek. **Reproduction/Distribution:** Chet Risio.

Volume 65, No. 18

August 30, 2017

President DON CONWAY rang the opening bell at 10:00 AM and introduced JIM BUTLER to lead us in the Pledge. Accompanied by GEORGE UBOGY on the piano, ERF PORTER led us in singing *The Air Force Hymn*, *Oklahoma* and *The Whiffenpoof Song*. BOB CAREY then drew loud laughter for his stories about Queen Elizabeth gaining entry to Heaven by showing how her royal flush beat Dolly Parton's pair, and how a long-suffering cowboy outwitted Satan.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DON CONWAY thanked all of the members who were prepared to give reports last week, but could not do so because of the **memorial for CHUCK STANDARD**. He noted that all had conscientiously given their reports to the CBB scribe for inclusion in the CBB. DON urged members, who received parking tickets last week, to give them to him to get "fixed." DON noted that, with the passing of CHUCK STANDARD, the RMA is without someone to keep track of and report on the condition of members absent because of ill health. He asked that someone step up to fulfill this vital mission. To this point, DON reported that WAYNE WRIGHT is currently in Stamford Hospital, and that GERRY GIBIAN has returned home from a recent visit to Greenwich Hospital. Both would welcome phone calls. RUSS HARDEN reminded all that this year's RMA picnic will be held at Greenwich Point on September 14. In a departure from past practice, RUSS noted that this year's picnic will be catered by Dinosaur Barbecue of Stamford. Otherwise we will have the usual games and raffles. JOHN TONER announced that the town is seeking volunteers for the Parking Appeals Committee and that any member interested in learning the work of the committee or to volunteer should call [203-622-7710](tel:203-622-7710).

COMITTEE REPORTS:

Program: HOLLISTER STURGES urged members to remain for a talk by Catherine Onyemelukwe, who will address members on Nigeria: Past and Present. JOEL BLUMBERG said that next week's speaker will be **Dr. Vincent DeVita**, a noted oncologist.

Membership: HORST TEBBE reported 97 members present along with 6 guests. Guests were: Lou Trovato (PETER STERN); David Weisbrod (JACK WEIR); Al Kestnbaum (PETER ARTURI); Seeley Hubbard (RUSS HARDEN); Abbot Jones. HORST presented Marshall Toppo for membership, and, following a fine recommendation from CHET RISIO, MARSHALL was unanimously welcomed to the RMA.

Volunteers: JOE MANCINELLI noted that for the week ending August 30, 43 men reported 322 volunteer hours for outside agencies, and 26 men reported 125 volunteer hours for the RMA. TAD LARRABEE had the most hours for the week (31).

FUN AND GAMES:

Bridge: JOHN FEBLES reported there were no games on August 23, because the YMCA was closed.

Golf: BART BARTHOLOMEW announced the August 29 outing drew 24 players. RUSS HARDEN was low scorer with an 87. GRAN BURGESS had the longest drive on 17, MIKE ROSS was closest to the pin on 7, and JOHN AWDZIEWICZ was closest on 15. Next week's host: PETER STERN.

Hearts: JOHN KNIGHT reported that there were 8 players on August 23. At table #1 the winners were TOM HEALY and MICHAEL AMBROSINO, and at table #2 the winners were ED FARRELL and JACK SWEGER. Two players shot the moon: ED FARRELL and JACK SWEGER.

Tennis: MICHAEL AMBROSINO announced that there is a good roster of tennis players for the winter season, and that the facility and players are set to go.

TODAY'S SPEAKER

A native of Kentucky, **Catherine Onyemelukwe** spent twenty-four years living in Nigeria, first as a member of the Peace Corps, and later as a teacher at several schools in that country. She is married to a Nigerian of the Igbo group, and she is deeply versed in the history and culture of that country. Mrs. Onyemelukwe, in discussing the history of Nigeria, first noted that Nigeria is one of the largest African nations. She stated that Nigeria was colonized by the Portuguese and other European nations before England was ceded control of it by treaty in 1884. Nigeria became independent in October, 1960; however, it is a divided country in terms of religion with the North being mostly Muslim and the South and East mostly Christian. Since becoming an independent nation it has suffered through a series of civil wars from the 1960s through most of the 1990s. Because of ethnic and religious conflicts, as well as disagreement over the distribution of revenue from oil, the country's greatest resource. Mrs. Onyemelukwe indicated that today, while Nigeria has a democratic government, it is in recession largely because the low price of oil on the world market has greatly impacted its GDP, but also because of the efforts of Boko Haram, an Islamic rebel organization bent on establishing Islam and Sharia law throughout the country.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Open to all Members, Guests, Candidates and Spouses. Checks should be made out to RMA, must be received within two weeks following the reservation or the reservation will

be cancelled. **Trip coordinators MIKE FERRARESE ([203-554-0678](tel:203-554-0678)) and ABBEY SMOLER ([203-531-0236](tel:203-531-0236))**

Sound Waters cruise(3hours),Thursday, August31,2017. Lunch:Snacks. Cost: \$35.00. Transportation: Private Car. Meet at dock at 1:30PM and schooner sails at 1:30 PM. Status: 2 openings.

Goodspeed Opera House -The musical “Oklahoma”, Thursday September 21, 2017. Lunch: Gelston House. Cost: \$120.00pp. Bus leaves St. Catherine’s at 9:45 AM. Status: wait List.

NEXT WEEK’S SPEAKER

Dr. Vincent DeVita, Jr. Subject: The Death of Cancer.
Respectfully submitted: ED FARRELL



Retired Men's Association of Greenwich, Inc. · 37 Lafayette Place · Greenwich, CT
06830 · USA Visit our website at www.greenwichrma.org