



CIGAR BOX BULLETIN

Retired Men's Association of Greenwich, Inc.
37 Lafayette Place, Greenwich, CT 06830

www.greenwichtma.org

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VOLUME 67 NUMBER 20 SEPTEMBER 11, 2019 SCRIBE: GERRY LESSUK

"Every great cause begins as a movement, becomes a business, and eventually degenerates into a racket."

Philosopher Eric Hoffer

President **GERRY SCHWENDEMAN** being away for the day appointed **RUSS HARDEN** as acting president, and **RUSS** convened the meeting at 10am. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by **ANDY HOLMES** and was followed by song leader **JACK SWEGER** leading the singing of *The Star-Spangled Banner*, *I'm Looking Over a Four-Leaf Clover*, and *We Are The RMA*. The pianist was **BOB MORGAN**. It was pointed out that **BOB** composed the song and the lyrics for the RMA during our 60th year. We are currently in our 65th year.

The treasurer for the day was **JEFF JUNKER**; the scribe was **GERRY LESSUK**, and the mentor was **DON CONWAY**. Corresponding secretary **BOB CAREY** told the story of an encounter between an Israeli Jew selling ties and a thirsty member of the Taliban seeking water on a desert in the Middle East. The Taliban's refusal to purchase a tie came back to haunt him.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RETURNEES: None reported.

SHAKESPEARE GROUP: The next meeting of the Group will take place on Wednesday, September 25, 2019 at 1:15pm. **GEORGE STOCKBRIDGE** advised that the meeting will take place at the home of **KEITH SMITH**, 37 Jones Park Drive,

Riverside, CT, to view Shakespeare's comedy *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Persons interested in attending should call **GEORGE** at 203-698-0710.

HUMAN INTEREST STORY: As told by **FRANK SCARPA**, he developed a "love-hate" relationship with helicopters arising out of his military service during the Vietnam War. At age 28 while interning in surgery after graduating from the John Hopkins School of Medicine, the War had heated up and surgeons were needed. **FRANK** was claimed by the U.S. Army Medical Corps and assigned to Southeast Asia. He served first as a junior surgeon at a Field Hospital and then as a Brigade Surgeon for a Light Infantry Brigade. Both assignments required a lot of time in helicopters, either accompanying seriously wounded soldiers or on checking up on other doctors at battalion "fire bases". **FRANK's** last involvement with helicopters occurred during the morning of 9/11/2001 when physician volunteers were being sought to travel by helicopter to the World Trade Center site. **FRANK** volunteered. On this day, the eighteenth anniversary of that tragic day, he described the horrors that he witnessed and the emotions he felt at ground zero.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

VISITING: No report.

MEMBERSHIP: As reported by **HORST TEBBE**, there were in attendance 107 members and five guests; Bill Howell, g/o **SKIP AUCH**, Richard Roberts, g/o **PETER UHRY**, Ed Miller, g/o **PETER UHRY**, Pat Yuen g/o **FRANK SCARPA**, and Paul Lindemeyer, g/o **MIKE SMITH**. Happy birthday was sung for **ED PARKER**, 74, **JIM SANTORA**, 78, and **GERHARD PETER**, 72.

PROGRAMS: Today's speaker, Asha Rangappa was introduced by **BOB PHILLIPS**. Ms. Rangappa is a senior lecturer at Yale University's Jackson Institute of Global Affairs, a former Associate Dean at the Yale Law School, and a former Special Agent in the New York Division of the FBI specializing in counter-intelligence investigations. A major theme of today's presentation will be foreign government interference in U.S. elections. **HOLLISTER STURGES** said that next week's speaker will be Phillip R. McKnight who will discuss the *Authorship Question* of Shakespeare's 39 great plays.

VOLUNTEER HOURS: For the week ending today, **ANDRZEJ MAZUREK** reported that there were 371 outside hours by 41 members and 177 inside hours by 34 members. Top RMA member hours went to **PETER BERG** with 42 hours.

SPECIAL EVENTS: The following event was discussed by **ARTHUR STAMPLEMAN**, www.arthur.stampleman@gmail.com; the PepsiCo Sculpture Gardens Tour. Maps are available from **ARTHUR** or by googling *700 Anderson Hill Road*. Everyone must get and complete a Waiver of Liability Form which is available from **ARTHUR**. Additional details Special Events are covered below.

FUN AND GAMES

BRIDGE: Six players formed 2 person teams. **JOHN HUFFMAN** provided the following scores: **ANDRE MAZUREK** and Patrick Gramm, 1830 points, **FRANK LEE** and **RON MURRAY**, 1360 points, and **TONY COCCHI** and **RON FRIEDMAN**, 1260 points.

GOLF: Twenty players teed off: 17 played 18 holes, and 3 played 9 holes. **GRAN BURGESS** reported the following: **MIKE RYAN** was closest to the pin on the 7th hole, **GRAN BURGESS** was closest on the 15th, and **JIM DEAN** had the longest drive on the 17th hole. Lowest scores were **JIM DEAN** with an 86, **RICH BARTHOLOMEW** with 90, and **ROS CURTIS** with 90.

INDOOR TENNIS: Eight players played two rounds on two courts. The following was reported by **ANDY HOLMES**. In the opening round the winners on Court #1 were **TOM HEALY** and **JOE MANCINELLI**. On Court #2 the winners were **MIKE SMITH** and **ANDY HOLMES**. In the final round the Courts #1 and 2 winners switched partners and played on Court #1, and the winners were **TOM HEALY** and **ANDY HOLMES**, while on Court #2 the opening round losers switched partners, and the winners were **PETER UHRY** and **RALPH NEWITTER**. Next week's captain is **TOM HEALY**.

PICKLE BALL/OUTDOOR TENNIS: As reported by **ANDY HOLMES**, 10 players played Pickle Ball on 9/5 and 9 players played Pickle Ball and Tennis on 9/9.

HEARTS: Eight players participated using two tables. **CHARLES GRAVES** said that six games were completed. Winners were **GRANT PERKINS (2)**, **CHARLES GRAVES**, **LOU TROVATO**, **GEORGE DIPPY**, and **JOHN KNIGHT**. Moon Shots were made by **GRANT PERKINS (2)**, **LOU TROVATO (2)**, **PETER BERG**, and **JOHN KNIGHT**. Next week's captain is **DON CONWAY**.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Open to all members, spouses, candidates and guests. Checks should be made to the RMA and must be received within two weeks of the reservation(s) or the reservation(s) will be cancelled. Buses 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 will follow at the *Doral Arrow Wood Resort*. Cost of the buffet is \$40, or the extensive salad bar is \$25. Transportation is self-drive, arrive by 10am. Status: full, wait list available. Contact **JIM FISHBEIN** or **MAURICE KROHN**.

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

TODAY'S SPEAKER

Asha Rangappa has titled her talk *Information Warfare and Social Media: Preserving Democracy in the (Dis)Information Age*. Ms. Rangappa gained her expertise on the subject when she served as a Special Agent in the New York Division of the FBI,

specializing in counterintelligence investigations, assessing threats to national security, conducting investigations on suspected foreign agents, and performing undercover work. In 2013 a Russian General, Valery Gerasimov, developed The Gerasimov Doctrine, a *Smart War* concept that called for creating chaos and upending domestic affairs without firing a single shot. Russia tried out the *Smart War* measures in the Ukraine and Estonia. In 2016 they used the four active measures, set forth below, with the aid of the internet and social media, such as *Facebook*, *Twitter*, and *Instagram*. Russia's use of Psychological Warfare to create chaos and subvert the democratic system occurred on four fronts: (1) Hacking and Intrusion; (2) Illegal Campaign Contributions; (3) Political Influence - getting people to present the Russian viewpoint; and (4) Disinformation and propaganda. The current political polarization has served Russia's purposes.

NEXT WEEK'S SPEAKER

Philip R. McKnight, Esq has a lifelong interest in Shakespeare, in the power and significance of his plays, and an insatiable curiosity as to whether he actually wrote them. Thus, his talk *The Shakespeare Nobody Knows*.

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RMA 2019 Calendar

Weekly Repetitive Activities		
Date	Time	
Mondays	9:00am to 11:00am	Summer T
Mondays	3:00 to 4:00	Tai
Tuesdays April through September	Various 8:00am to 11:00am Tee Times	
Wednesdays	10:00am to 11:00am	RMA V
Wednesdays	1:00 to 3:00pm	
Wednesdays	3:00 to 4:00	Tai C
Wednesdays	1:00 to 4:00pm	
Thursdays	9:00am to 11:00am	
Thursdays	9:00 AM	RM
Fridays	1:30pm to 3:00pm	Inc
RMA Special Events		
September 12, 2019	10:30am	ANNUA
September 19, 2019	10:00am	PepsiCo Ken
October 10, 2019	9:00 to 11:00am	Wa

November 13, 2019

12:00 Noon

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