



CIGAR BOX BULLETIN

Retired Men's Association of Greenwich, Inc.

www.greenwichrma.org

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

This Bulletin is brought to you each week by these volunteers

Scribes: **Av Rivel, Kurt Schaffir, Arnold Gordon, Ed Farrell, Gerry Lessuk, George Stockbridge, Dan Fredland, Joe Mancinelli, Frank Scarpa, Marshall Toppo**. On leave: **Steve Elliott**, Archivist: **Harold Frost**. Format: **Jack Cuff, Andrzej Mazurek, Gene Schwartz**. Print/Dist: **Chet Risio**.

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Scribe: FRANK SCARPA

"In the fields of observation, chance favors the mind that is prepared."

Louis Pasteur

President **TAD LARRABEE**, still on crutches, rang the meeting to order in a timely fashion. **ANDY HOLMES** led the Pledge, and **TOM HEALY** led the singing of "God Bless America", followed by "Don't Fence Me In" and "Put on a Happy Face"—all accompanied by **JIM SANTORA** on piano. **WAYNE DeVRIES** resumed his duties as Treasurer, assisted by **SAL DeANGELO**. **PETER STERN** was the day's Mentor.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Board has approved an amendment to our Certificate of Incorporation. Contrary to a 2012 amendment indicating that the RMA is a 501(C) (3), we are now officially recognized by the IRS as a 501 (C) (7). The new amendment states the latter and is posted on the bulletin board. An official vote of the membership will be held on October 26.

Parking in the church parking lot remains an issue, especially now that school has resumed at the First Presbyterian Church. The church has reserved 3 spots in the parking area outside the front door for RMA members most in need. RMA members

who want handicapped parking should contact **JERRY SCHWENDEMAN** to sign up for our 3 spaces.

GRANVILLE BURGESS has written the book and lyrics for an off-Broadway play entitled "*Common Ground*" and is directing it as well.

Returns: **WAYNE DeVRIES** has again returned from Maine. **RUSS HARDEN** is back from Basel, Switzerland. **PETER TUNLEY** is back from the UK, Switzerland and Poland **TOM HEALY** has returned from Gloucester, Mass. and **RICK HOLZ** is back from Lauderdale-by the Sea.

CHET RISIO is stepping down as CBB Editor after three years. He will continue as Scribe/Distributor and will continue as editor for the Member Profile Series. Members are encouraged to work with **CHET** in creating their own member profile. The RMA is thankful to **CHET** for his outstanding contributions to the weekly CBB over the past three years. Congratulations to **JOE MANCINELLI** who is the new CBB Editor.

PETER STERN is stepping down as the lead for the RMA Volunteer Desk. He is to be commended for putting our volunteer records into a spreadsheet format and will continue to help with record-keeping. **MIKE RYAN** reminded us of the Salvation Army Food Drive at Town Hall on September 13th.

Corresponding Secretary **BOB CAREY** entertained us with an endearing late-life love story that might have been sabotaged by an unintentional double-entendre.

Shakespeare: **GEORGE STOCKBRIDGE** noted that the next meeting of the Shakespeare aficionados will be at the home of **KEITH SMITH** at 37 Jones Park Drive, adjacent to St. Paul's Episcopal Church on Tuesday afternoon, September 18th. Parking is in Keith's driveway. The play "*Coriolanus*" will roll at 2 p.m., members should arrive by 1:45.

Visiting: **WAYNE WRIGHT** reported that **MIKE AMOROSO** is at home after surgery and doing well. **ART SZABO** passed away on July 23. A service celebrating **ART's** life will be held at the Round Hill Community Church on Saturday, September 15th.

Annual RMA Picnic: **MIKE AMBROSINO** and **ARNOLD GORDON** reminded us that the annual picnic will be held at Tod's Point tomorrow—hoping for good weather, and promising good food, the special attraction of a lip-synch contest and a bigger-than-ever raffle!!!

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership: **HORST TEBBE** reported 102 men in attendance. Ron Murray is the guest of **RUSS HARDEN**.

Birthdays: **ED PARKER** is 73, **FRENCHIE LeBEAU** is 72, **JIM SANTORA** is 77 and **JOHN TONER** is 72.

Inductees: There were two inductees. **TOM McGUIRE** was introduced by **HORST TEBBE** and **CHET RISIO**. Born in Manhattan, TOM studied at Regis High School and the University of Notre Dame.

He married Elvira in Brazil and served in the U.S. Army Chemical Corps. He was President of Vicks in the Far East and Latin America. Except for a ten-year residence in Maine, **TOM** has lived in Greenwich since 1965.

BOB MEANEY was introduced by **HORST TEBBE** and **ED FARRELL**. A native of Philadelphia, **BOB** is a Princeton graduate with a Wharton MBA. Prior to serving as Chairman of International at Valmont Industries (Omaha). **BOB** was with Continental Can for 20 years and served in the U.S. Navy from 1969 to 1972. Volunteer Hours: **ROS CURTIS** reported 247 outside hours by 26 RMA members, and 108 inside hours by 18 members. **GRAN BURGESS** was the top man with a total of 40 hours.

FUN AND GAMES

Bridge: **RON FRIEDMAN** reported eight players in attendance. Top scorer was **FRANK LEE** with 2670. **RON FRIEDMAN** and **TONY COCCHI** tied for second with 2550.

Golf: **GRAN BURGESS** reported that **JOE MANCINELLI** was closest to the pin on both #7 and #15, however the potential trifecta by **JOE** was spoiled by **GRAN BURGESS** who had the longest drive on #17. The low score of 90 was posted by **TONY COCCHI**.

Tennis: **SAM MARASSO** reported that court #1 winners were **RON FRIEDMAN** and **JOHN KNIGHT**. Court #2 winners were **SAM MARASSO** and **ANDY HOLMES**. **MIKE SMITH** will be next week's captain.

Pickleball: **TONY COCCHI** reported that there were 13 players on September 6th. He also announced that Pickleball for September 13th will be cancelled due to the Annual RMA Picnic.

Hearts: **JACK SWEGER** reported on eight players at two tables. Table #1 had two games—one won by **JOHN KNIGHT** and the other by **PETER BERG**. Table #2 had three games. **TOM HEALY** won two of them, and **JOHN STANKUNAS** won the third. **JOHN STANKUNAS** and **TOM HEALY** each had two moon shots, and **JOHN KNIGHT** had one.

SPECIAL EVENTS

ABBEY SMOLER once again noted that the trip to the **Godspeed Opera House on October 25** would feature a performance of "*The Drowsy Chaperone*" and lunch at the Gelston House, cost \$125 pp. Bus departs at 9:15 am from St. Catherine's Church parking lot. 10 places are still available.

For reservations, contact **ABBEY SMOLER** at 203 531 0236 (abbeysmoler@gmail.com) or **MIKE FERRARESE** at 203 554 0676 (myagentmike@yahoo.com).

NEXT WEEK'S SPEAKER

PETER BERG previewed Christopher Bruhl, the President and CEO of the Business Council of Fairfield County. Mr. Bruhl will be speaking about Connecticut and Fairfield County business trends in light of projected population decrease and increasing vehicular traffic.

TODAY'S SPEAKER

Thomas J. McGlynn, Jr. was introduced by **JOHN CARON**. The topic was "A Greenwich Resident's Perspective on Living and Working in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia." Mr. McGlynn was Tax Director for Price-Waterhouse Coopers for 25 years. He spent six years in Saudi Arabia, where he was responsible for tax advice to 1800 Americans working at Saudi Oil and their 25 most senior Saudi executives. He pointed out that Riyadh is very "metropolitan" but that the Saudis are very outwardly religious and 100 per cent Muslim. The Call to Prayer is widely observed, and the Prayer times are published daily in the newspapers. The dress code is taken seriously, especially for women. Only recently have women been allowed to drive automobiles. King Abdullah founded a thriving co-ed engineering and technical university. Saudi Arabia is essentially "land-locked", surrounded by friendly countries. Neighboring Bahrain, which is connected to Saudi Arabia by a twenty-mile causeway, is an "almost free country" by comparison. The country is quite arid, and there is very little greenery to be seen.