



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. **Archivist:** Harold Frost. **Format and Layout:** Gene Schwartz, Paul Levine, Jack Cuff. **Reproduction/Distribution:** Walker Collins, Chet Risio.

Volume 64, No. 21

September 21, 2016

President PETER UHRY rang the members to order at 9:58 a.m. TONY DI ROLLO led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Accompanied ably on piano by GEORGE UBOGY, TOM HEALY led us in singing America the Beautiful, 16 Tons and He's got the Whole World in His Hands. TOM doubled as joke teller of the week, relating a tale about a football coach looking for a good quarterback, who he found, and how they won the Superbowl.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Returnee: TED EWING back from Maine.

PETER UHRY instructed us not to park in the two parallel spots outside the meeting room, as these are reserved for parents leaving off their kids for pre-school.

MIKE SMITH spoke to invite more volunteer drivers for Call-a-Ride, and witnessed to how much satisfaction it brings to talk with the people he drives in Call-a-Ride's cars whom he takes to and from where they need to go in Greenwich.

ARNOLD GORDON announced a new RMA contest reminiscent of the limerick contest. This will be a "Clerihew" contest to be held October 19. See www.gigglepoetry.com/poetryclassdetail.aspx?LessonPlanID=19 for a description of a Clerihew. It's a cleverly amusing 4-line verse, usually about famous people. **President PETE** announced a fundraiser to support Greenwich Green and Clean, Inc. Come to the Chipotle at 1233 E. Putnam Ave., Riverside shopping center, between 5 and 9pm on Thursday Sept. 22, tell the cashier you're supporting the cause to make sure the proceeds will be donated to Greenwich Green and Clean.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

CHUCK STANDARD reported for **VISITING** that TED SPOOL is getting outpatient treatment at Bendheim Center and JOE MALARA's health has been stabilized with a new regime of pills.

STEVE MYERS invited us all to stay for **TODAY'S SPEAKER** about coping with climate change by **Robert Klee**, Commissioner of Connecticut's Department of Energy and Environmental Protection. (See details below).

HOLLISTER STURGES previewed **NEXT WEEK'S SPEAKER**, **Joel Blatt**, Professor of History at UCONN Stamford on the "Misunderstood Treaty of Versailles" and how it led to the rise of Hitler.

HORST TEBBE gave the **MEMBERSHIP** figures; there were 118 members, 2 candidates and 3 guests: Irwin Hausman, g/o WALKER COLLINS; Joel Blumberg, g/o ARNOLD GORDON, and Ted Thaxter, g/o JOHN VECCHIONE.

Members celebrating **birthdays** were HARRY TWITCHELL, 95; GIFFORD REED, 83; ROBERT ZIPF, 84 and STEVE MARINO, 87. Happy birthday, gentlemen!

For **SPECIAL EVENTS**: ABBEY SMOLER warned all planning to go on the trip Sept. 22 to be there by 8:15, as the bus will leave St. Catherine's parking lot promptly at 8:30. He added that the following event will be on Oct. 27 to Goodspeed Opera House, to see the story of Judy Garland, "Chasing Rainbow" musical. Details below.

WALT HOWE gave us the **volunteer hours**: 418 hours by 46 men for outside agencies; 140 hours by 27 men for RMA activities. KEATING HAGMANN was high man with 50 hours.

President UHRY instructed us on **protocols to follow when someone loses consciousness at our meeting**: Call 911; make space around the person in trouble; someone go outside to usher in the EMT responders.

TAD LARRABEE announced that the **WALKERS** on Sept. 22 will go to Rockefeller State Park. Meet at Greenwich Library at 9a.m.

GAMES:

KURT SCHAFFIR reported for **BRIDGE** that there were 16 players on 9-14. Top score was 3750 by RON FRIEDMAN; second was 3620 by PETER STERN, and third was BRUNO SCHRAGE with 3480.

KIP SCHULZE announced the **GOLF** results. There were 5 players in the 90's; best score 83 by RALPH VIGGIANO; closest to the pin in #15 was TONY RIGGI.

For **TENNIS**, RALPH VIGGIANO told us that he and GERRY GIBIAN were on court #1; PETER ORBANOWSKI and BILL HOWLAND were on court #2. Next week's captain will be PETER UHRY.

Today's SPEAKER:

Commissioner Klee spoke very knowledgeably about the work of his Commission (see above). He said that in the field of energy production, suppliers are urging customers to use less power, and giving them incentives to do so. He mentioned coal as the highest source of CO2, with oil next, and natural gas least. Heat pumps, wind turbines, geothermal energy, solar panels and hydropower now produce only 15% of CT's power. They aim for 30% by 2030. Already there are 800 electric car charging stations; they aim to increase these and hybrids exponentially over the next 15 years. He proudly announced that CT recycles 60% of its trash, a goal other states aim to match as landfills disappear. New technology such as using organic waste to create methane as a source of energy is already producing reductions in CO2 emissions here. His commission is responsible for preservation of 250,000 acres of land in the state, fisheries off the Atlantic coastline and maintaining clean water sources. All of the above are impacted by the climate change we are experiencing in violent storms, eroding beaches, higher tides and greater flooding of property. We will mitigate the effect of climate change by building solar farms, off-coast windmill stations, possibly more nuclear power plants, and working with UCONN's group researching climate change. A lively Q and A ensued.

GEORGE STOCKBRIDGE, Scribe

SPECIAL EVENTS

Open to all members, spouses, candidates and guests. Checks made payable to RMA. Contact MIKE FERRARESE 203-554-0676, myagentmike @yahoo.com.org or ABBEY SMOLER 203-531-0236, abbeysmoler @gmail.com.

SAGAMORE HILL SEPT. 22: Teddy Roosevelt Home and Museum. Lunch at Canterbury Oyster Bar. Cost: \$75 p.p Bus leaves St. Catherines 8:30a.m.

GOODSPEED OPERA HOUSE OCT.27: "Chasing Rainbow, the Judy Garland Story". Lunch at Gelston House. \$115p/p-p. Bus leaves St. Catherine's 10a.m. Status 18 places available.

NEXT WEEK'S SPEAKER

Will be **Joel Blatt**, speaking on the Treaty of Versailles leading to the rise of Hitler.

Visit our website at www.greenwichrma.org