

CIGAR BOX BULLETIN

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

“The Trouble with resisting temptation is it may never come your way again.” Korman’s Law

In the absence of President RALPH VIGGIANO and First Vice President PETER UHRY, Second Vice President DON CONWAY opened our meeting at 10:03 AM. He was followed by TONY DIROLLO who stepped up to lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance . With GEORGE STOCKBRIDGE aiding at the piano, RICH LIMBACHER led us in the rousing renditions of *God Bless America*, *Hey Look Me Over* and *Toot Toot Tootsie Goodbye*. Our Corresponding Secretary, BOB LUCE then told us the warm story of a periodontist who, suffering major setbacks including a stolen car and a deserting wife, was moved by others to solve his problems in a well-regarded local bar.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DON CONWAY returned to the podium and reminded us that we still need a fellow to become our new Publicity Chairman. He followed that request with the point that the 375th Anniversary Parade will take place on September 27th starting at the Town Hall at 2:00 pm. Four Cars will be present and access to them can be obtained by taking a Kiwanis shuttle from the Island Beach Parking Lot starting at 1:00 PM Twenty six people have presently signed up to participate with banners and signs ! DON also mentioned the need for a volunteer to assist with The Health Fair, Thursday, October 1st at the Eastern Civic Center, 9AM to 1PM. At the same time he asked that we remember the invitation to the Annual Dinner on November 4th. Reservations should be made soon. Finally, Don announced that the Town of Greenwich Clearing House Coat Drive was taking place on October 2nd through October 4th. Any coats of all sizes can be dropped off at the four Greenwich fire houses or the main police station during that period. JOHN CARON then gave us a prelude to our current speaker: Ajit Huthseesing’s presentation, an introduction to the past, present and estimated future of India. After mentioning the sensible reason for attending the funerals of others, HORST TEBBE announced that next week’s speaker will be Martin Rushkin, who will be presenting us with the nature and the future of the Bitcoin.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

VISITING: CHUCK STANDARD stated that HOLLISTER STURGIS continues to be available to visitors. BILL DYNAN was happily welcomed back.

MEMBERSHIP: HORST TEBBE advised us of 112 members, one candidate (Peter Tunney) and five guests: Bill Fakundiny introduced by JEFF PARKER, Ray Mastoloni brought by RALPH MASTOLONI, Peter Tanley hosted by RUSS HARDEN plus Peter Goutmere and Gordon Burgess, both presented by MIKE HAYDEN. Birthdays had been celebrated by GIFFORD REED (82) and STEPHEN MARINO. (86).

VOLUNTEERS: JOHN FEBLES pleased us with the news that as of September 23rd, 450 hours were reported for outside agencies by 54 members and 114 hours were RMA activities by 30 members.

FUN AND GAMES

BRIDGE: GRANT PERKINS reported that 13 players participated on Sept.16th with WAYNE DEVRIES first at 3540, BRUNO SCHRAGE second at 3240 and KURT SCHAFFIR third at 3000 **GOLF:** MIKE RYAN stated that only 13 players competed yesterday, the lowest group number since April! 8 players completed 18 holes with 7 players below 100 and 2 below 90. Our President had an impressive 88. Our star performer was NICKY ACHIWA who shot 87. Closest to the pin on 7 was MIKE SMITH, closest on 15 was RALPH VIGGIANO and the longest drive was NICKY ACHIWA. Our annual golf luncheon will be on Wednesday, October 21st at a new venue, the Innis Arden Golf Club at \$ 40.00. MIKE is looking for a good turnout and donations to raffle off as prizes. **Tennis:** MIKE also reported that on September 18th, PETER ORBANOWSKI and ERF PORTER were victors on Court 1, JEFF PARKER and SAM MARASSO won on Court 2

TODAY'S SPEAKER

JOHN CARON introduced **Ajit Huthseesing** who is a graduate of both Cambridge University and Columbia Business School. After growing up in the well known Nehru family in India, Ajit led a career with major investment banks and founded International Capital Partners. Telling us that he would be viewing the past, present and future of the country, he asked that we consider the three major elements of India's history: industrial power, philosophies and colonialism. Growth in India's past from the 17th century grew from its welcome spirit and its ability to encourage local manufacturing followed by exporting to Europe. At the same time, it was impinged by misdirected socialism and corruption by many of the ruling class. As we look at the present, he told us, we see a country 1/3 the size of the U.S. but with four times the population. The future of the country can be quite positive with the present prime minister but steps must be made to reduce political and commercial corruption. Thirty % of the executive staff in Silicon Valley are from India. Finally, when asked a question about the most successful exports

of India, Ajit replied, “meditation and yoga”; a good answer about potential and perspective that will aid us all in the future.

SPECIAL EVENTS

ABBY SMOLER announced that the trip to the Goodspeed Opera House to see “**It’s A Wonderful Life**” is on Thursday, October 22, 2015 : the bus will leave St. Catherine’s parking lot at 10:00 am. Lunch will be served at Gelston House. 12 more places are available @ \$115.00 but should be booked soon. For more details and to sign up contact Trip Coordinator: GERRY LESSUK (GERLESS@att.net, 203 698 9451

NEXT WEEK'S SPEAKER

The RMA looks forward to hearing from **Martin Rushkin** addressing the money laundering and currency effect of Bitcoin.

Visit our website at www.greenwich.org

Respectfully Submitted: Jim Butler