

CIGAR BOX BULLETIN

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, Bernard Schneider, Jim Butler, Arnold Gordon, Ed Farrell; Martin Grayson, Emeritus; **Format and Layout:** Gene Schwartz, Fred Waldron; **Archivist:** Harold Frost; **Printing:** Nick Mecca, Larry Schmitz

Volume 62, No. 21 September 24, 2014

President BOB PHILLIPS called the meeting to order. JOHN CARON led us in the Pledge. TOM HEALY as Songmaster, and GEORGE STOCKBRIDGE on the ivories, led us in *It's A Grand Old Flag*, *This Land Is Your Land*, and *When You Were a Tulip*. Corresponding Secretary GERRY FOX, new to the crew, explained the factors involved in church affiliation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: GRANT PERKINS announced that volunteers are needed for the AARP Tax Assistance Program, which is administered by the RMA in Greenwich. Training will be provided. RALPH VIGGIANO reminded members that the RMA Annual Dinner (our 60th) will take place on November 12 at the Burning Tree Country Club. The cost is the same as last year, \$50 per person. RALPH also alerted us to the Senior Health Fair, being held on October 2, 9am – 1pm, at the Old Greenwich (Eastern) Civic Center, where the RMA will have a table. PETER UHRY gave us a picnic wrap up; attendance was somewhat down, but the usual great time was had by all. PETER also announced that the annual Golf Luncheon will be held on October 22, following the RMA meeting, at the Field Club. Jacket required. Advance registration and payment (\$32) required. JOHN FEBLES gave us a head's up on the Salvation Army RMA Kettle Drive (RMA-Administered), which begins the day after Thanksgiving. Contributions are invited and volunteers are needed. Contact JOHN or DAVID DOWNS. TIM NOLAN announced that the ROMEO luncheon is being held today at the Millbrook Club, immediately following the RMA meeting. JOHN CRAINE reported that, because of the forecast for inclement weather, the RMA raft-up scheduled for September 25 is canceled. GEORGE DIPPY asked us to participate in the CROP Hunger Walk on Sunday, October 5, at the Second Congregational Church (registration at 1:30; walk at 2). TAD LARRABEE announced that ARTO SZABO took 54 pictures at the RMA Picnic, posted on the RMA web site (greenwichrma.org) under the Photo Gallery heading. There are many more pictures of RMA events on the web site.

RETURNEES: BILL CLEWORTH (Columbia and Snake Rivers); MIKE BALINT (Las Vegas); SAM MARASSO (Paris and Nice).

COMMITTEE REPORTS: MEMORIAL: MIKE SMITH delivered a eulogy for BILL OSGOOD, who contributed much to the RMA and to the Greenwich community. "He was a dear friend whose generosity, sense of humor, and personal talents touched many of our lives." JOHN DeCsepel offered additional words of remembrance.

VISITING: CHUCK STANDARD noted that ROGER PIERCE is now at home; WALT KIRKMAN and MANNY BONVENUTO (914-025-8448) are at Osborne; and BILL EUSTIS is in re-hab at Nathaniel Witherell (Room #3). WELCOME BACK to MIKE

ROSS. **PROGRAM:** JOHN CARON announced co-speakers of the day, on the topic of the current state of franchising in the fast food industry. AL KNIGHT, announced next week's speaker, Steve Forman, successful in two careers as innovative packager of frozen seafood, and as author of detective novels. **MEMBERSHIP:** Chairman JIM FAHY reported attendance at 116: 113 members, 2 candidates (Rick Holz and Don Hermann) and 1 guest (Charles Shibetti, guest of BOB BISHOP). **BIRTHDAY BOYS:** MIKE LANGAN (92); HUGO GRUENDEL (88); LEON FREEMAN (87); STEPHEN MARINO (85); FRANK FLORES (84); DAVE DEWEY (82); ROBERT ZIPF (82); GIFFORD REED (81) and HORST TEBBE (74). **VOLUNTEER:** GERRY MAYFIELD reported that, for the week ending September 24: 390 outside hours by 47 men, 145 RMA hours by 31 men. TAD LARRABEE reported 35 hours.

FUN AND GAMES: TENNIS: RON FRIEDMAN and PETER STREICH won on Court 1; MIKE SMITH and BERNARD SCHNEIDER won on Court 2. **BRIDGE:** Per KURT SCHAFFIR, the game on September 17 had 10 players. Top three scores: HOLLISTER STURGES 5290, KURT SCHAFFIR 4730, and DAVID DOWNS 3560. **GOLF:** MIKE SMITH: On a lovely, sunny day, with 20 players; 3 scores in the 80's and 6 scores in the 90's. Closest to pin on #7, MIKE SMITH; longest drive on #17, JIM SANTORA, closest to pin on #15, DICK BARTHOLEMEW. **SUMMER TENNIS:** TED SPOOL advised that summer tennis continues at the Loughlin Avenue courts in Cos Cob, Mondays and Thursdays from 9:00 to 11:00 AM.

TODAY'S SPEAKER: PETE MCSPADDEN introduced our two speakers, successful entrepreneurs with much hand's-on experience in the fast food industry. They explained the nature of franchising, costs and expenses, and current problems and issues. A lively question and answer followed, with the speakers responding to a number of criticisms of fast-food franchising currently being made.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Open to all Members, guests, candidates and spouses. Checks are made out to the RMA.

New York 9/11 Memorial Museum: Thursday, October 2; lunch at Blue Water Grill. Cost is \$104 per person. Fully booked, waiting list only. Departs from St. Catherine's Church at 8:30am.

Holiday Inn, Goodspeed Opera House, Thursday, October 30; lunch at Gelston House. Cost is \$112 per person. 5 tickets still available. Departs by bus from St. Catherine's Church at 9:45am.

NY Philharmonic at Lincoln Center: Thursday, February 5, 2015. Rehearsal, featuring Rachmaninoff's 2nd Symphony; lunch at Atlantic Grill. Cost is \$98 per person. Departure by bus from St. Catherine's Church at 8am. 20 tickets available.

For more details contact GERRY LESSUK (gerrless@att.net, [203-698-9451](tel:203-698-9451)) or RICH LIMBACHER (limbacher29@Verizon.net, [203-532-9515](tel:203-532-9515)).

NEXT WEEK'S SPEAKER

Steve Forman has had two successful careers, as an innovative packager of frozen seafood, growing it into a multinational multimillion dollar business and as an author of detective novels. His topic will be: "It's *Never Too Late*."

BERNARD SCHNEIDER –Editor

Visit our website at www.greenwichrma.org and see videos of our speakers at <http://vimeo.com/user9053619/videos>