



CIGAR BOX BULLETIN

Retired Men's Association of Greenwich, Inc.

www.greenwichrma.org

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: **MARSHAL TOPPO**

"If honor were profitable, everybody would be honorable."

Thomas More

President **TAD LARRABEE** called the meeting to order at 10:05am. **MIKE FERRARESE** led the group in the Pledge to the flag. **TOM HEALY** urged us on in song with *My Country tis of Thee, Deep in the Heart of Texas*, and a confused *Tzena, Tzena, Tzena* with **BOB MORGAN** at the piano. **RICH BISK** brought laughter from the group with two risqué jokes about animal husbandry.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. **TAD LARRABEE** informed us that we had three returnees: **GERRY GIBIAN** from England and Minnesota, **AV RIVEL** from San Francisco, Portland, Seattle and Vancouver, and **PETER TUNLEY** from Palm Beach Gardens.
2. **GERRY SCHWENDEMAN** reminded us of the annual dinner on November 14th at the Tamarack Country Club. Members need to make their reservations. **GERRY** can be reached at 203-622-9205.
3. **WAYNE WRIGHT** informed us that **GEORGE STOCKBRIDGE** is home recuperating after a brief illness. **GEORGE** would appreciate calls from members at 203 698-0710.
4. **JOHN FEBLES** shared with us that Nina Cocchi, **TONY COCCHI's** wife, will be showing her beautiful art work at the Greenwich Bank and Trust Co. at

Riverside, CT, October 12th through November 30th. The opening reception will take place Wednesday, October 17th at 4:30pm to 6:00pm.

5. **STEVE MYERS** told us there would be a bus at the Bruce Museum to take interested parties to an open house at the Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory on Saturday, October 13th from 9:15am to 2:15pm.

6. **TAD LARRABEE** happily shared with us the fact that the RMA will celebrate a birthday on October 15th. Founded in 1954, the RMA will be 64 years old. **TAD** also said the Old Greenwich Thrift Shop, is asking for clothing and men's ties. All money raised goes to charity.

7. **PETER UHRY** again advised us that a session at the Greenwich Library will discuss the book, Code Girls.

8. **ARNOLD GORDON** reminded members that they need to register in order to vote by November 6th. You must know your polling station. Those in need of a ride to the polls should sign up on the list at the membership table or make use of Call-a-Ride at 203-661-6633. Details on how to do so are posted on the bulletin board and are in the October 3rd CBB.

9. **ARNOLD** again mentioned that, as a courtesy to the CBB Scribe and to ensure complete and accurate information for all members, anyone making an announcement at a business meeting must provide the Scribe with a clearly written or typed copy of the information. Make sure your name is included along with all details.

COMMITTEES.

MEMBERSHIP: **HORST TEBBE** reported attendance today is 107 members and two guests; Art Wells g/o **JACK WEIR** and Jeff Junker G/O **MIKE AMBROSINO**. Birthday boys were **ANDY HOLMES** 62, and **ED FARRELL** 80.

VOLUNTEER HOURS: **HAROLD KUPLESKY** reported the volunteer hours for the week ending October 10th. Outside hours were 355 by 25 RMA members. Inside hours were 95 by 20 RMA members. Most volunteer hours were achieved by **MIKE AMOROSO** with 135 hours. WOW!

PROGRAM: **GEORGE UBOGY** and **AV RIVEL** announced today's speaker is Audrey Levitin, Director of Development and External Affairs, talking on *The Innocence Project- 25 years of Freeing the Innocent*.

JERRY POLLACK said next week's speaker will be Mark Pazniokas, Capitol Bureau Chief of the CT Mirror, speaking on *Connecticut: State of Political Confusion*.

FUN AND GAMES

BRIDGE: PETER STERN advised us that on October 3rd there were seven players. The scores were: TONY COCCHI 3560, KURT SCHAFFIR 2740 and ANDRZEJ MAZUREK 2380.

OUTDOOR TENNIS: On Friday, October 5th, winners on court one were JOE MANCINELLI and ANDRZEJ MAZUREK. Winners on court two were ROBERT FRISHMAN and PETER ORBANOWSKI. Next week's captain is JOE MANCINELLI.

PICKLEBALL: TONY COCCHI reported that there were 7 players, four on one court and three on the second court. They experimented with three players on a side. Five players went on to play at Eastern Civic Center. We are reaching the end of the summer season. Tomorrow's weather is questionable. We will have to see if we will be able to play outdoors.

HEARTS: PETER BERG advised us that on October 3rd there were eight players. On table 1, games 1 & 2 the winner was CHARLIE GRAVES. On table 2 MIKE AMBROSINO won games 1 & 3 and LOU TROVATO won game 2. Shooting the moon twice were CHARLIE GRAVES and LOU TROVATO, as well as one time for PETER BERG.

WALKERS: DON HERMANN spoke extensively about the walking group and updated the current walkers' activities.

GOLF: GEOFFREY BURGE reported that on Tuesday, October 9th there were 14 players on the course. Nearest to the pin on 7 and 15 was ANDREJ MAZUREK. The longest drive was by MIKE AMBROSINO. Three golfers scored under 100. RALPH VIGGIANO had the lowest score with a 91.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Special Events are open to all members, guests, candidates and spouses. Checks should be made out to RMA and must be received within two weeks or the reservation will be cancelled. Contact MIKE FERRARESE (myagentmike@yahoo.com or 203-554-0678) or ABBEY SMOLER (abbeysmoler@gmail.com or 203-531-0235).

October 25th, Goodspeed Opera House, *The Drowsy Chaperone*, with Lunch at the Gelston House, \$125pp, bus leaves St. Catherine's at 9:15am. Status: three openings. ABBEY announced a trip to Westchester Dinner Theater on Feb 14, 2019, to see *Ain't Misbehavin'*. Cost is \$95 and includes lunch at the theater.

GERRY LESSUK announced that he will lead a trip to the NY Philharmonic for a rehearsal of Janacek's *The Cunning Little Vixen Suite*, Prokofiev's *Piano Concerto No. 3*, and Rimsky-Korsakov's *Scheherazade* on Jan 10, 2019. Tickets are \$115.00 with lunch at the Atlantic Grill. Bus departs from St. Catherine's at 9:00am. Call GERRY AT 203-698-9451.

TODAY'S SPEAKER

GEORGE UBOGY introduced today's speaker, Audrey Levitin, Director of the *Innocence Project*, an organization dedicated to exonerating unjustly convicted prisoners. GEORGE also said we would meet a man who was innocent but convicted and imprisoned but eventually freed by the efforts of the Innocence Project.

Ms. Levitin began her presentation with a brief history of the project stemming from the Cardozo School of Law. Since its origin the project has expanded nationwide with more than 60 offices. Their primary instrument in their efforts to find the innocent is DNA testing. Although deluged by requests for help, they must determine whether the DNA

testing would be appropriate in seeking exoneration. The project also makes an effort to discover prosecutorial misconduct and other faults in the criminal justice system. Now all 50 states have adopted DNA testing as a way to identify the innocent. Ms. Levithin introduced James Tillman who was wrongly convicted of a crime he did not commit. He served 18 ½ years before being saved by the Innocence Project. He is now a productive citizen motivated by love not anger. Tillman's story was moving, and we can only imagine how many men like him are still behind bars.

NEXT WEEK'S SPEAKER

World War II - Cryptology - Code Girls and More
Presentations moderated by Peter Uhry

Visit us at www.greenwichrma.org

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37 Lafayette Place GreenwichCT 06830 · USA