



CIGAR BOX BULLETIN

Retired Men's Association of Greenwich, Inc.
37 Lafayette Place, Greenwich, CT 06830

www.greenwichtma.org

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"The evil that men do lives after them, the good is oft interred with their bones."

William Shakespeare

JERRY SCHWENDEMAN, after numerous tries, called the group to order at 10:05am. **ED FARRELL** led the fellows in the Pledge. **JACK SWEGER** ably led the group in singing *Those were the Days* and *It's Been Good to Know You*. **GEORGE_UBOGY** was at the piano. **BARRY RICHELSON** assisted the opening festivities with the audio-visual projection work. **BOB LUCE** brought chuckles from the group with quips followed by the phrase "that's when the fight started."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Returnees: **RICK HOLZ** from Lauderdale by the Sea, Florida, and **GEORGE DEY** from Scandinavia and Iceland.

Visiting: **MIKE AMBROSINO** said no member was currently hospitalized. He also thanked the group for donations of clothing and money for Covenant House.

JOEL BLUMBERG alerted us on the vital importance regarding the extra strength flu shot. He emphasized that seniors and children are most vulnerable to serious complications from the flu.

JERRY was particularly pleased to applaud **BOB BISHOP** in preparing the needs for our weekly meeting. **BOB** has also been recognized for his hard work at the Byram Schubert Library. Kudos to **BOB** for all the work he does week after week.

JERRY added that the Melody Men will be appearing Thursday at King Street Rehab Center and Monday at the Greenwich Greens.

ED FARRELL announced there were 93 members in attendance, one candidate for induction and one guest. Len Carusi, g/o **CARL WHITE**, and **JACK CUFF**. The birthday of the week was **MARSHALL TOPPO** at 86. Inductee Ed Mastoloni was sponsored by **PETER STERN** and **ED PARKER**. Ed Mastoloni was employed by Grumman Aircraft working on various space projects. He eventually owned a jewelry business importing pearls and fine jewelry. His business necessitated extensive travel throughout the world. **ED MASTOLONI** was unanimously inducted into the RMA.

This week's speaker: **PETER UHRY** reminded us that this week's presentation will be a panel discussion on the topic *Today's Education Challenge – Separating Fact from Fiction in a Digital Age*. It will be chaired by Ernest Fleischman, Ph.D., former Superintendent of Greenwich Schools.

Next week's speaker: **CHARLES ADAMS** informed us that Captain Jesse Paluch of the NY State Bureau of Environmental Crimes Investigation will speak on *Wildlife Crime Scene Investigation Training in South Africa: On the Front Lines in the Poaching Crisis*.

COMMITTEES

Volunteer hours: **MIKE HAYDEN** reported that for the week ending Oct. 16, 2019 there were 343 outside hours by 35 members and inside hours were 102 by 22 members. Most hours accounted for by **MICHAEL AMBROSINO**, 40.

Special Events: **DON CONWAY** reminded us of the Westchester Broadway Dinner Theater excursion in January 2020 to see *Five Guys Named Moe*.

GAMES OF THE RMA

Bridge: **JOHN FEBLES** reported that for the week of Oct. 9, 2019 there were four players. **ED MASTOLONI** had 3230 points, **JOHN FEBLES**, 3220 and **FRANK LEE**, 2210.

Tennis: **MICHAEL AMBROSINO** reported: For 10/11/19, preliminary round **HEALY/HOLMES**, **NEWITTER/MAZUREK**, final round, on Ct. # 1 **HOLMES/MAZUREK**, on Ct. # 2, **FRIEDMAN /AMBROSINO** winners. Next week's captain is **GERRY GIBIAN**.

Hearts; **LOU TROVATO** reported that for the week of Oct. 9 there were three tables and 11 players. Seven games completed. Winners: **JOE DOWLING**, **CHARLIE GRAVES**, **LOU TROVATO**, **GRANT PERKINS**, **MICHAEL AMBROSINO**, **JIM DEAN** and **JOHN STANKUNAS**. Moon shots **MICHAEL AMBROSINO**, **JOE DOWLING** and **LOU TROVATO**.

Golf: **JOHN CRAINE** advised us that on Oct. 15 there were thirteen players. Eleven completed 18 holes. Eight broke 100. **GRANVILLE BURGESS** had the lowest score of 88. **JIM BOARDMAN** who hit the trifecta was nearest to the pin on 7 and 15 and the

longest drive on 17, highlighted by a birdie on 15. The annual golf luncheon will be held at the Field Club Wednesday, Oct. 30, 2019 after the RMA meeting. The cost is \$47. See **MIKE RYAN** and **PAUL CAMPION** for menu and payment.

Tai Chi: **WILL MORRISON** reported that the following members improve their balance, health, and dispositions as Tai Chi participants at the Greenwich Senior Center on Mondays and Wednesdays at 3:00pm. **BOB LUCE, BOB MORGAN, BOB RIMMER, BRUCE PANTANO, GEOFFREY BURGE, GRAN BURGESS, JAMES DEAN, JEFF JUNKER** and **JOHN DENNE**.

TODAY'S SPEAKER

PETER UHRY introduced the topic for discussion by a panel of educators entitled *Today's Education Challenge Separating Fact from Fiction in a Digital Age*. The moderator was Dr. Ernest Fleischman, former Superintendent to Greenwich Schools. Panel members were Emma Goddard, Ryan Jones and Alexandra Stevens, all classroom teachers. A discussion regarding censorship and book banning ties into the Ray Bradbury novel "Fahrenheit 451". Bradbury was ultimately drawing attention to mind control. If you control what is available for reading, then you control dialogue and thinking.

The panel offered their approaches in helping students to decipher the true facts from the bombardment of dis and misinformation. Students are simultaneously struggling with the effects of technology and the short span of attention it has produced. The panel acknowledged that their main objective is to prepare students to be critical thinkers and keep an open mind to reach informed conclusions.

NEXT WEEK'S SPEAKER

Capt. Jesse Paluch on *Wildlife Crime Scene Investigation*.

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RMA 2019 Calendar

Weekly Repetitive Activities			
Date	Time	Activity	Location
Fridays	1:30pm to 3:00pm	Indoor Tennis	Old Greenwich Tennis Academy
January, 2020	TBD	Five Guys Named Moe	Westchester Broadway Dinner Theater

Mondays	9:00am to 11:00am	Summer Tennis or Pickleball	Loughlin Ave. Courts
Mondays	3:00 to 4:00	Tai Chi Beginner	Greenwich Sr. Center
November 13, 2019	12:00 Noon	ANNUAL RMA BANQUET	Tamarack Country Club
RMA Special Events			
Thursdays	9:00am to 11:00am	Pickleball	Loughlin Ave. Courts
Thursdays	9:00 AM	RMA Walking	Various TBD
Tuesdays April through October	Various 8:00am to 11:00am Tee Times	Golf	Harris Griffith Golf Course
Wednesdays	10:00am to 11:00am	RMA Weekly Meeting	First Presbyterian Church, One West Putnam Ave., Greenwich CT
Wednesdays	1:00 to 3:00pm	Hearts	Greenwich Civic Ctr. 90 Harding Road, Old Greenwich
Wednesdays	3:00 to 4:00	Tai Chi Advanced	Greenwich Sr. Center
Wednesdays	1:00 to 3:00pm	Bridge	Greenwich YMCA