

CIGAR BOX BULLETIN

Volume 63, No. 26

October 28, 2015

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

“I remain just one thing, and one thing only – and that is a clown. It places me on a far higher plane than any politician.” **Charlie Chaplin (1889 – 1977), “The Observer” 1960.**

President RALPH VIGGIANO brought this RMA meeting together at 10:00 AM and requested BOB BISHOP to lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

We then were led by TOM HEALY accompanied by BOB MORGAN in singing *Our Country Tis’ of Thee, Tennessee Waltz and Hey, Look Me Over.*

CHUCK STANDARD came forward to relate the yarn of the auto mechanic and the medical doctor comparing work compensation - the human’s engine was on.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. **RALPH VIGGIANO** reminded us that November 4th is the RMA Annual Dinner at the Burning Tree Country Club; arrival can start at 10:30 AM, a coat and tie is required for RMA members. No regular meeting will take place. October 28th was the last day to make reservations.

RALPH stated that the November 11th meeting will take place at Christ Church, the Veteran’s Parade occurs that same day.

We learned further that DOUG FRANCEFORT was featured in the “Greenwich Sentinel” in an article covering the Book Exchange.

Finally, RALPH announced that the Prostate Cancer Education Forum would take place at the Greenwich Hospital at 6:00 PM on Monday, November 2, 2015. The subject would be “Da Vinci Robotic Surgery”, presented by Dr. Jeffrey Ranta.

2. **MARTIN WAINE** then introduced Linda Avery representing the AARP Tax Program, a free service offered at the Greenwich Senior Center from February 1st to March 15th. Several RMA members assist in this useful program but more volunteers are needed; training is available and those interested can contact MARTIN at 203 629 2006.
3. **JOHN DECSEPEL** then stepped up and told us that Hill House in Riverside is looking for an architectural/ engineering type individual to join its Board: contacts and or suggestions can be made by calling Pat Geismar at 203 637-3579.

JOHN also told us that the Representative Town Meeting, (RTM), has many vacancies. Those who are interested can go to the Registrar in the Town Hall and tell them that you would like to be a write-in candidate for November 3rd and then ask a few people to write in your vote on Election Day.

4. **KLAUS JANDER** then reminded us of The Woman's Club of Greenwich holding its fundraiser, the Holiday Boutique, on Friday November 13th and Saturday November 14th. Profits from this event will be dedicated to many philanthropies. RMA Volunteers would be most helpful in giving parking directions; a signup sheet is on the RMA bulletin Board or you may call Deborah Jander at 203 629 8198.
5. **RETURNEES** were welcomed back: STEPHEN MARINO (Washington, D.C.), MARIO BONAPARTE (Yoncalla, Oregon), JIM BUTLER (Martha's Vineyard, MA), TED EWING (Spain & England), NICKY ACHIWA (Japan), BOB CAREY, (Alexandria, VA & White Sulphur Springs, [W.VA](#)).

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Program: BOB WYLIE told us of the appearance of Douglas Elmendorf for a presentation on November 11th. Mr. Elmendorf is former Dean of the Kennedy School of Management and the former Director of the Congressional Budget.

PETER UHRY, for today's speakers, gave a preview of the shared review from Amy Fleishman, Alex Earles and Marilee Johns regarding the joint efforts of Greenwich Reading Together and the International Rescue Committee (IRC) in communication and aid to the refugee crisis touching the U.S. and the world.

Memorial: Bill DYNAN spoke to us on the life of RICHARD LIMBACHER, touching on his 51 years in Greenwich, including his thoughtful and active approach leading our tours as well as a featured singer with the Melody Men. RICHARD'S presence is truly missed.

Membership: HORST TEBBE informed us that 107 members were present along with 3 guests (Mike Farrissi, guest of GERALD GIBIAN; Bill Caporizzo, guest of BOB BISHOP; Jack Galvin, guest of JOE COLEMAN). HORST also stated that this week's **birthday boys are:** GREGOR GREGORICH (79), RON FRIEDMAN (81) DON SARGEANT (70), LARRY SCHMITZ (85), FRANK SCARPA (74), LLOYD HULL (93), JOE NEWBERRY (85) and JOHN KNIGHT (71). **Inductee:** PETER J. TUNLEY was sponsored by RUSS HARDEN and JOHN CARON; both had known PETER for 30 years. PETER was born in England and was educated in the U.K. He became General Manager of the Coral Beach Club in Bermuda and moved to the U.S to become General Manager of the Stanwich Club and President of Club Managers' Association of America. PETER enjoys golf, tennis and rugby while looking forward to contribute to RMA activities

Volunteers: JOHN FEBLES advised us that for the week ending October 28, 2015, 377 hours were reported for outside agencies by 53 men and 29 men reported 168 hours.

DON CONWAY reported 48, the most individual hours. JOHN also reminded us that the Emergency Winter Coat Drive at the Greenwich and Riverside Community Center ends after October 30th

FUN AND GAMES

Bridge: GRANT PERKINS reported that the October 21, 2015 session included 15 players. GRANT PERKINS held high score at 3730 followed by JOE ROE at 3440 and LEN SAARI at 3360.

Tennis: RANDY MOTLAND advised us that PETER ORBANOWSKI and RANDY, himself, won on Court 1; RON FRIEDMAN and PETER UHRY won on Court 2. RON FRIEDMAN will be next week's Captain.

Golf: JAY SCHONDORF informed us that after a brief weather delay, 19 players made the rounds; five players were in the eighties with TED EWING the low man at 80. RALPH VIGGIANO was closest to the pin on #7, closest on #15 was PETER UHRY. NICKI ACHIWA had the longest drive on # 17. This winds up the RMA golf for the year.

TODAY'S SPEAKER

Amy Fleishman, Alex Earles and Marilee Johns wove together the interaction of Greenwich Reading Together and the International Rescue Committee (IRC) to meet the needs of the expanding refugee crisis. Amy spoke to us about Ameracannah, the story about a Nigerian girl and her experience in immigrating to the U.S. and the book chosen for our Reading Together Book of the Year. Alex Earles then spoke about the birth of IRC in the 1930s while also giving us the historical background of immigration since WW II and beyond. Marilee then followed Alex with a review of the present refugee and asylum seekers' conditions with the four functional areas where IAC assists those who qualify in the U.S. Their presentation was eye opening on how the U.S. is assisting those in flight.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Open to all members, spouses, candidates, and guests. Checks made out to RMA.

The next event this year is a trip to the **New York Philharmonic Open rehearsal on Thursday January 14th with lunch at the Atlantic Grill**, at a cost of \$98.00. The tour is full but a waiting list is available. Departure time is 8:00 AM from St. Catherine's parking lot.

For more details/sign-up, contacts are GERRY LESSUK (gerrless@att.net, 203 698 9451) or ABBEY SMOLER (abbeysmoler@gmail.com, 203 531 0236).

NEXT WEEK'S SPEAKER

Douglas Elmendorf, former Dean of the Kennedy School at Harvard and past Director of the Congressional Budget Office

Respectfully Submitted: **Jim Butler**

Visit our website at [www. greenwichrma.org](http://www.greenwichrma.org)