

CIGAR BOX BULLETIN

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October 29, 2014

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

President BOB PHILLIPS rang the opening bell at 10:00am sharp and summoned BILL DYNAN to lead us in The Pledge. With GEORGE STOCKBRIDGE at the keyboard, RICH LIMBACHER led us in singing *God Bless America, Ain't She Sweet* and *Darktown Strutters Ball*. Corresponding Secretary BILL DYNAN told us of a generous guy, whose wife didn't understand how he helped a young lady in distress

ANNOUNCEMENTS: BOB PHILLIPS reminded members not to park in the Fairfield House parking area. Jara Burnett of the League of Women Voters read the words of the amendment that will appear on our ballot November 4. In summary, it would permit the state legislature to consider not requiring voters to appear in person at the polling places. A vote "yes" would empower the state legislature to vote on changing the constitution, whereas a vote "no" would keep the law as it reads now. Bruce Winningham urged members to honor our veterans by participating in the Veterans Day community walk starting at 10:00am at the top of Greenwich Ave. RALPH VIGGIANO reminded all to sign-up for the RMA annual dinner on November 12. WAYNE DeVRIES told of Call-a-Ride's need for a Treasurer and urged anyone interested to contact him. BERNARD SCHNEIDER reminded all that Medicare Part D (prescription drug coverage) open enrollment is underway and to call the Commission on Aging (203-862-6710) for information. To his credit, PETER UHRY noted an error was made in awarding BOB OPPENHEIMER'S donation of peanuts at the annual picnic, and he awarded a large bag of peanuts to JOHN HARRIS, the rightful recipient. JOHN FEBLES noted that the RMA-sponsored local Salvation Army organization needs donations of time and/or money, and that he will be soliciting volunteers as bell ringers for the Thanksgiving to Christmas fund raising season. To mark the 233rd anniversary of France's contribution to the Revolutionary War victory at Yorktown, VA, SERGE GABRIEL led a rousing offering of La Marseillaise.

RETURNEES: BOB PHILLIPS welcomed returnees ARTO SZABO (Italy), ED PARKER (Arizona), BILL HOWLAND (6 Asian countries), GERRY BOYLE (Cape Cod & Maine) and himself (Germany).

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Visiting: CHUCK STANDARD noted that MANNY BONVENUTO will be leaving re-hab today after a 50 day stay, and that SANDY BUCHSBAUM is recovering from hip surgery

at the Jewish Services facility in Fairfield. CHUCK also welcomed the return of PAUL BRADY.

Program Committee: WIN ADKINS announced that today's speaker will be Greg Van Antwerp who will discuss a new field of knowledge, Urban Archeology. Next week's speaker will be Judge Alan Nevas.

Membership Committee: Chairman JIM FAHY reported 120 members present along with 3 candidates (Charles Shibetti, Harvey Bozzi, Charles Land), and 1 guest (Philip Smith a guest of GERRY FOX). This week's **Birthday Boys:** GREG GREGORICH (78); WIN ADKINS (82); DON SARGEANT (69); LARRY SCHMITZ (84); FRANK SCARPA (73); LLOYD HULL (92); JOE NEWBERRY (84); BOB MacKAY (82); GEORGE PATTERSON (88); and TONY DiROLLO (87).

Special Events: GERRY LESSUK reminded everyone that the bus for the performance of "Holiday Inn" at the Goodspeed Opera House will leave from St. Catherine's at 9:45am sharp tomorrow, Oct. 30th. There are 3 seats remaining. LARRY also noted that the trip to hear a New York Philharmonic rehearsal will be on February 5, 2015, and the backstage visit to the Metropolitan Opera is scheduled for January 22, 2015.

Volunteers: ED BLOOM reported that, for the week ending October 29, 55 men reported 491 volunteer hours on behalf of outside agencies and 132 hours on behalf of RMA. The most hours (25) were reported by DICK ROBINSON.

FUN AND GAMES: **Bridge:** KURT SCHAFFIR reported that the October 22nd game drew 12 players. KURT SCHAFFIR was high with 4670 followed by WAYNE DeVRIES, 4520, and AL HARTIG, 3030. **Tennis:** RALPH VIGGIANO reported the following winners on October 24. Court 1: PETER UHRY and JIM HIMES. Court 2: MIKE WARNER and RON FRIEDMAN. Next week's captain will be PETER STREICH. **Walking:** TAD LARRABEE invited all for a walk tomorrow at Mianus River Gorge.

TODAY'S SPEAKER: Greg Van Antwerp, spoke of his passion for uncovering interesting artifacts that tell stories of times gone by. He told us of his joy in learning the stories behind lost photos and documents and in launching new hobbies, such as developing glass negatives.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Events are open to all Members, Guests, Candidates and spouses. Checks should be made out to RMA.

Metropolitan Opera Tour at Lincoln Center: Thursday, January 27, 2015; lunch at Le Rivage. Cost is \$50 per person. Departure time is 10:15am before tour.

NY Philharmonic at Lincoln Center: Thursday, February 5th, 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 8:00am (open event seating, bus must leave on time !) tickets are available.

For more details and to sign-up, contact GERRY LESSUK (gerrless@att.net, 203-698-9451) or RICH LIMBACHER (limbacher29@verizon.net, 203-531-9515)

NEXT WEEK

Next week's speaker will be **Judge Alan Nevas**. Topic: Tales From the Bench - Three of My Most Interesting Cases.

Visit our website at www.greenwichrma.org and at vimeo.com.

Respectfully Submitted: **Ed Farrell**