

CIGAR BOX BULLETIN

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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; Chet Risio, Martin Grayson, Emeritus; **Format and Layout:** Gene Schwartz, Paul Levine and Jack Cuff; **Archivist:** Harold Frost; **Printing:** Chet Risio and Larry Schmitz.

"There is one thing better than good government, and that is government in which all the people have a part." (Walter Hines Page --- 1855-1918)

Your scribe overheard the following leaving this morning's meeting: "Comparing Governors Rell, Roland and Malloy, which of the three do you think ate fewer pizzas, had less traffic accidents and signed more bills while in office?" (Interestingly, the other person in this conversation said "Malloy" even though they then acknowledged they really did not know. (Uhry -12/2/15)

On a wet morning, President **RALPH VIGGIANO** opened the meeting at 10:03am. **DON CONWAY** led the pledge and **JERRY SCHWENDEMAN**, aided by **PETER RYAN** on the key board, had us sing *The Star Spangled Banner, Battle Hymn of the Republic and You Made Me Love You*. Putting on a different hat, **JERRY SCHWENDEMAN** reminded us of the power of women in our lives....saying that, faced with a high cost to replace a severed piece of anatomy at a hospital, a family decision was made instead to replace the granite kitchen counters. **STEVE BOIES AND DICK CASE**, doing their treasurer's work, smiled warmly but continued to count their bundles of loose dollar bills.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

JOHN FEBLES (203) 550-5249 needs Bell Ringing Volunteers in one hour shifts to help raise funds for the Salvation Army. The callers work outside of the Acme store in Riverside. Call John and help out. (*Scribe's note:* John arrived late and did not deliver this timely message personally. However, I report it here knowing this annual RMA activity should be known to all). **GRANVILLE BURGESS** (203) 253-1825 invites us all to performances of his play, *A Country Carol*, at Theatre Artists' Workshop located at 5 Gregory Blvd, E. Norwalk, CT. Performances are on December 11 and 12 at 8pm and December 13 at 3pm. A \$10 suggested donation will be sought at the door. **BOB LUCE** encouraged us to attend the Greenwich Choral Society's Christmas Concert at Christ Church this weekend. Best ticket options are for Sunday's performance at 2:30pm. (203) 622-5136. **GEORGE STOCKBRIDGE** (203) 698-0710 invited members to become CBB Scribes. (*This scribe notes:* skills in spelling and grammar not as important as note-taking, attentive listening over short bursts of time and the ability to type. Remember, if **UHRY** can do it, so can youse. And, you get to join the merry band of fellow writers generating our weekly records of RMA doings.) Contact leader **STOCKBRIDGE**.

RETURNEES are: **JERRY BOYLE** from S.CA, **SAM MARASSO** from Williamsburg VA and **RICHARD BARTHOLOMEW** from Boston, MA.

COMMITTEES:

VISITING: **CHUCK STANDARD** reported he had so many BIG ONES he could hardly carry them. And, they were all good calendars too. Further, **CHUCK** said of visiting: "I have nothing to say." We cheered the good news. **MEMBERSHIP:** **HORST TEBBE** reported there were 126 members in attendance, plus 3 candidates – Bill Caporizza, Mike Ferrarise, and Jack Galvin. The four guests were: Wayne Leizear, guest of **GRIFF GRIFFIN**, Peter Van Aken, guest of **CARL VAN AKEN**, Alan Berk, guest of **JIM FAHY** and Ed Harding, guest of **BOB MEYER**. **One birthday boy** was noted: **TED SPOOL** 85. **VOLUNTEER HOURS:** **MIKE HAYDEN** reported 504 hours for outside agencies by 57 members; and 121 hours for RMA activities by 27 members. **ERF PORTER** reported the most hours – 59.

GAMES AND SPORTS:

BRIDGE: **KURT SCHAFFIR** reported 12 bridge players. **HOLLISTER STURGES** was first with 4500, **WAYNE De VRIES** second with 3262 and **GRANT PERKINS** third with 3088. **TENNIS:** **GERRY GIBIAN** said the winners were **RON FRIEDMAN** and **GERRY GIBIAN** on Court 1; and **JEFF PARKER** and Mike Warner on Court 2. **JEFF PARKER**, is captaining for **GERRY GIBIAN** this Friday.

TWO CANDIDATES: First **BOB PHILLIPS** and **GERRY GIBIAN** spoke in support of candidate Mike Ferrarese who was raised in Yonkers and worked in real estate. He is an active traveler, has close connections with Greenwich and came to the attention of **BOB PHILLIPS** when he volunteered at Meals on Wheels. He is married and currently lives in Stamford.

Jack Galvin was sponsored by **JOE COLEMAN** and **DAVE McKEE**. Jack was born in Yonkers and graduated from Columbia. His career was centered on commercial insurance work and as a partner in Masters Insurance Co, Ltd. A golfer, with a wife and three children, he lives in Greenwich.

TODAY'S PROGRAM: **BOB WYLIE** did a prolonged introduction of our well-known Governor Dannel Malloy who was late arriving but quickly captured the attention of the overflow crowd of 211 (some say 289) members and guest with his wit and pragmatic presentation focusing on Transportation, Pensions and the Second Chance Society. We all learned that Governor Malloy believes his administration is doing a better job than either former Governors Roland and Rell. Facts, figures and a significant understanding of this man's thinking came across in his 30 minutes of remarks. Governor Malloy then answered questions from the floor mainly focused on transportation issues. (With coverage from WGCH, local newspapers and our own recording efforts, there should be plenty of opportunity to revisit the details).

Peter Uhry, Humble Scribe of the CBB

SPECIAL EVENTS -2016

Open to members, spouses, candidates and guests. Checks payable to the RMA

January 14: N.Y. Philharmonic Rehearsal

The bus will leave from St. Catherine's at 8:00 a.m. Lunch will be at the Atlantic Grill. \$85 per person. Wait listed.

February 4: Bruce Museum

A private tour of the Museum begins at 9:45 a.m. Bring your own car. Lunch follows at the Field Club.

Cost to be determined. Status -Open.

NEXT WEEK'S PROGRAM:

Jim Bell, Executive Producer of NBC Olympics will present a program entitled *Politics and the Olympics*. He has been covering the Olympics since 1992 and most recently helped produce the controversial 2014 Sochi, Russia Winter Games.

Visit the RMA website at www.greenwichrma.org