



CIGAR BOX BULLETIN

Retired Men's Association of Greenwich, Inc.

www.greenwichrma.org

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This Bulletin is brought to you each week by these volunteers

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Volume 66 Number 31 December 12, 2018 Scribe: GERRY LESSUK

"In politics stupidity is not a handicap"....Napoleon Bonaparte
Neither is ignorance! GERRY LESSUK

At approximately 10:00AM President **TAD LARRABEE** rang the bell opening the meeting. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by **MIKE HAYDEN**. Song leader **JACK SWEGER** led the singing with an animated *God Bless America*, and followed with two seasonal favorites - *Let it Snow* and *Winter Wonderland*. **JIM SANTORA** provided an upbeat piano accompaniment. Treasurer **WAYNE DeVRIES** was assisted by **SAL DeANGELO**. Mentor for the day was **JACK WEIR**.

Corresponding Secretary **ARNOLD GORDON** regaled the group with a series of humorous one liners.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

JACK SWEGER advised that this will be the final effort to get bell ringers out for the Salvation Army Kettle donations. Needed are volunteers for six prime-time slots on Saturday and Sunday, December 15 and 16, 2018. Volunteers please contact **JOHN FEBLES** at jfebles@gmail.com or by phone – 203 869-5343 or cell 203 550-5049.

JERRY SCHWENDEMAN will be interviewed by Tony Savino on WGCH on Monday, December 17, 2018 at 8:45am. **PETER BERG** gave a brief memorial for **BARRY MONTGOMERY** who passed away on this past November 20 in Winchester, NH. His funeral took place in Greenfield, MA on December 1, 2018. **BARRY** lived in Stamford and Greenwich for most of his life and 20 years ago moved to Western MA and most recently to Southern NH.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

VISITING: **JOE DOWLING** reported that **CORY DUNHAM** is at Nathaniel Witherell and does not wish to receive calls or visits.

PROGRAMS: Today's speaker, **Terri Ann Lowenthal**, as introduced by **HOLLISTER STURGES**, is a nationally recognized expert on the U. S. Census and policy issues affecting federal statistics, gaining her expertise during a 14 year career as a congressional aide in both the House and Senate. Her talk will deal with the issues connected to the 2020 Census.

ARNOLD GORDON reported that next week's meeting, December 19th, will be a family party, and will be held at Christ Church, 254 East Putnam Avenue, Greenwich, starting from 9:30AM to 10:00AM. There will be some Christmas songs to be sung by everyone, assisted by the Melody Men. The Corresponding Secretary crew will stage a joke-a-thon, and **ARNOLD** and **PETER UHRY** will sponsor an "Ugly Tie" contest as judged by some of the wives in attendance.

(Lots of crazy looking ties are for sale at the Rummage Room on Sound Beach Avenue in Old Greenwich.

MEMBERSHIP: As reported by **ED FARRELL**, there were in attendance 101 members and four guests - Bob Strong, g/o **DAVE WEISBROD**; Pete Juvious, g/o **PETER BERG**; Don Miller, g/o **RON FREIDMAN**, and Ron Farrauto, g/o **BOB ROBIN**. Happy birthday was extended to **PETER STERN (74)**, **GEORGE STOCKBRIDGE (87)** and **ARNOLD GORDON (81)**.

VOLUNTEER HOURS: These hours were reported by **GERRY MAYFIELD**: There were 290 outside hours by 28 members, and 119 inside hours by 21 members. Top RMA member hours went to **MIKE RYAN** with 41.

SPECIAL EVENTS: **ABBEY SMOLER** covered the next two events occurring on January 10, 2019 and February 14, 2019. Full details are set forth below.

FUN AND GAMES

BRIDGE: Seven members played. **PETER STERN** reported that the three highest scores were **JOHN HOFFMAN** with 2340, **JOHN FEBLES** with 1980, and **RALPH VIGGIANO** with 1800.

HEARTS: Four players were involved on one table. **GEORGE DIPPY** said two games were played. Game #1 winner was **CHARLES GRAVES**, and Game #2 winner was **JACK SWEGER**. Shooting the moon once was **JACK SWEGER**. Next week's captain is **TOM HEALY**.

TENNIS: **RON FRIEDMAN** reported that the winners on Court 1 were **DON BREISMEISTER** and **GERRY GIBIAN**. In the consolation round on Court 2, the winners were **RON FRIEDMAN** and **TOM HEALY**. Next week's captain is **TOM HEALY**. The final schedule will be emailed Saturday, December 15, 2018.

TODAY'S SPEAKER

Terri Ann Lowenthal's presentation focused on the decennial population count mandated by Article 1, Section 2 of the U. S. Constitution, and the issues presented by the 2020 census. The Constitution vests Congress with the responsibility for overseeing the census, a function it has delegated by law to the U.S. Census Bureau (an agency of the Department of Commerce). The 2020 census will be the 23rd since the first enumeration in 1790. The population count is critical for determining representation in Congress and allocating federal program dollars throughout the country. Preparations for the 2020 census have already started: local offices opened and census takers hired and trained. This census will be the first hi-tech approach to census taking, relying on the Internet to collect much of the data. Some of the risks involved in this coming count are: First hi-tech census; cost limited to the amount spent for the 2010 census; fear in immigrant communities regarding use of the collected information; hard to count groups such as urban, rural, renters, children, the foreign born, young mobile adults, and the introduction of the citizenship question into the census format by the Commerce Department while the law only mentions persons residing in the U.S. The 2020 census starts in January 2020 in Alaska, with most States done in March. April 1, 2020 is Census Day in the U.S.A. There are no do-overs. The results of the census are applied after 2 years, in 2022.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Open to all members, spouses, candidates, and guests. Checks should be made out to the RMA and must be received within two weeks following the making of the reservation(s) or they will be cancelled. All buses depart from the St. Catherine church parking lot.

Contact Persons are listed with Each Event.

NY Philharmonic Open Rehearsal, January 10, 2019, lunch at the Atlantic Grill, cost \$115, bus departs 8:00AM, status: wait list. Contact **GERRY LESSUK** (203-698-9451).

Elmsford Dinner Theatre /"Ain't Misbehavin", February 14, 2019, lunch at the Theatre, cost \$95, bus departs 10:30AM, status: 6 places open. Contact **ABBEY SMOLER** (203-531-0236)

NEXT WEEK

On December 19, 2018 a Family Party will take place at Christ Church, 254 East Putnam Avenue, Greenwich. Arrive between 9:30AM and 10:00AM.

Visit us at www.greenwichtma.org

