



CIGAR BOX BULLETIN

Retired Men's Association of Greenwich, Inc.

60 Years of Fellowship and Community Service
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Here are the volunteers who publish this Bulletin each week for your enjoyment. **Editor:** Chet Risio, Chair. **Scribes:** Gran Burgess, Av Rivel, Kurt Schaffir, Jim Butler, Arnold Gordon (tempy Editor), Ed Farrell, Gerry Lessuk, George Stockbridge, Emeritus. **Archivist:** Harold Frost. **Format and Layout:** Gene Schwartz and Jack Cuff. **Reproduction/Distribution:** Walker Collins, Chet Risio.

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December 14, 2016

"The opposite of love is not hatred, but indifference." Elie Wiesel, Holocaust survivor, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate.

President PETER UHRY, rang the meeting to order at 10am. GRAN BURGESS led the Pledge of Allegiance. TOM HEALY, song leader, led us in spirited singing of *America the Beautiful*, *You Made Me Love You*, and *Toot-Toot-Tootsie Goodbye*. The talented BOB MORGAN accompanied on the Steinway. Corresponding Secretary ARNOLD GORDON read us some humorous "Rules for Tombstone Epitaphs" and a novel use for Crisco.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PETER UHRY

1. Advised us that next week there will be a special program for families. Bring your families for a musical program that will include the melody men, and a guitar player singing holiday songs. There will be food and fun for all.
 - a. Announced that there were no returnees.
 - b. Reminded us that the December 28 meeting will feature an outrageous tie contest.
2. BOB WYLIE previewed for us today's speakers from the Greenwich Historical Society (details below).
3. MIKE RYAN told us this is the last weekend for Salvation Army bell ringing volunteers from RMA. He asked for volunteers for Sunday Dec. 18.

COMMITTEES

VISITING: President UHRY announced that there was no Visiting report.

MEMBERSHIP: JIM FAHY regretted the attendance at a sparse number of 98 members, 1 candidate, Les Chaikin; and 2 guests: Gerry Friedman g/o PETER COLEMAN, and Andre Mazurek, g/o ED FARRELL. We sang Happy Birthday to LANE

GRIJNS, 79; DAVID BURLESON, 85; GEORGE STOCKBRIDGE, 85; JOHN GALVIN, 82; and ARNOLD GORDON, 79.

VOLUNTEERS: MIKE HAYDEN gave the volunteer hours: 384 hours by 38 men for outside activities; 89 hours for RMA activities. The man with the most volunteer hours was BILL SALTSMAN with 34.

THE SCOREBOARD

BRIDGE: The bridge scores were announced by KURT SCHAFFIR: Coming in first was JAMES CHUNG with 3510; second was JOE ROE with 3440; distant third was KURT SCHAFFIR with 2100. There were 12 players.

TENNIS: MIKE AMROSINO gave the tennis report: Winners on Court #1 were PETER STREICH and SAM MARASSO; winners on Court 2 were BRUNO SCHRAGE and RON FRIEDMAN.

TODAY'S SPEAKER

Three officials of the Greenwich Historical Society described a capital campaign that will transform the campus of the National Historic Landmark Bush-Holley House.

Historical Preservation Architect David Scott Parker reviewed the purchasing of the private residence at the extreme left of the campus, looking from the waterfront. This building was originally a hotel for visitors from New York City when the New Haven Railroad came as far as Cos Cob, and for artists coming to the nation's first impressionist art colony domiciled at Bush-Holley House. Downstairs in the hotel building was "Toby's Tavern" a favorite watering hole for visitors. Parker's goal is to re-create the once thriving streetscape as it was during the height of the art colony era. He anticipates construction to begin in the Spring of 2017. This will be made possible by the fact that \$11 million of the \$13.5 million dollars has already been raised in the funding campaign.

The GHS Executive Director Debra Mecky and Capital Committee Chairman Peter Malkin detailed what the campus would look like when restoration is complete in 2018. Toby's will be restored to its 1900's architectural glory, but unfortunately will not be a pub. New archive and gallery space and a handicapped-accessible entrance will be added to the original tavern building, into which many of the exhibits now in Bush-Holley will be moved for exhibits that over the years have had to be placed in storage. Creation of a doubling of the number of parking spaces is now under way.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Open to members, spouses, candidates and guests. For reservations contact Trip Coordinators ABBY SMOLER (203-531-0236) and MIKE FERRARESE (203-554-0678). Checks should be made out to RMA. In the future, checks must be received within two weeks or reservation will be cancelled.

January 26, 2016: New York Philharmonic Rehearsal. Cost \$100.00 per person. Bus transportation – early departure from St. Catherine’s at 8:00 a.m. Lunch at Atlantic Grill. Wait Listed.

February 23, 2017: Mark Twain Museum in Hartford, CT. Cost \$76 per person. Box Lunch. Bus transportation - departure from St. Catherine’s at 9:00 a.m. Status – 20 openings.

MARCH 30, 2017: Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory. Cost p/p \$60. Lunch at Lamont. Bus leaves St. Catherine’s 9a.m. Spaces available: 32.

NEXT WEEK’S SPEAKER

NEXT WEEK’S PROGRAM. SPECIAL FAMILY PROGRAM (SEE DETAILS ABOVE IN CAPITAL LETTERS UNDER ANNOUNCEMENTS.

George Stockbridge, Your Scribe of the Week

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