



CIGAR BOX BULLETIN

Retired Men's Association of Greenwich, Inc.
37 Lafayette Place, Greenwich, CT 06830



www.greenwichrma.org

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"The wisest man is ...he who loafs most gracefully"

Lin Yutang

Another successful ZOOM meeting was initiated precisely at 10AM by **RUSS HARDEN**, who segued right into the pledge of allegiance.

MIKE AMBROSINO read a fitting eulogy for **RALPH VIGGIANO**, who passed away on May 19, 2020 at Greenwich Hospital at age 71, after a battle with prostate cancer. **RALPH**, a Bronx native, enlisted in the U.S. Navy directly after high school. He served for 4 years, including a tour on the aircraft carrier *Intrepid* in 1968 off the shores of Da Nang. After his naval service, **RALPH** made his career as an electrician, rising in the ranks of his profession. Shortly before his retirement at age 60, the **VIGGIANOS** moved to Old Greenwich. **RALPH** promptly initiated a retirement life filled with volunteer activities. He joined the RMA in 2008, and threw himself into organizational, social, and athletic activities---excelling at bridge, hearts, tennis, and golf. **RALPH** served in virtually every administrative role, including as President in 2015. He received the Outstanding Service award in 2014.

[Click here to read the complete eulogy for **RALPH VIGGIANO**](#)

ARNOLD GORDON memorialized our colleague **JIM FAHEY**, who passed away recently at age 82. **JIM** had been a member of the RMA for 18 years. **JIM** had received a bachelor's degree from Iona College and a master's from the University of New Haven. He served in the U.S. Air Force until 1968, then began a distinguished twenty-year career with the Greenwich Police Force. **JIM** is the only recipient of the Greenwich Police Department's Medal of Honor, for protecting the life of a fellow officer during an active shooter incident.

[Click here to read the complete eulogy for **JIM FAHEY**](#)

MEMBERSHIP: **PETER STERN** informed us that 82 members were in attendance, including two from their relocated homes: **RICH BISK** from Texas and **KURT SCHAFFIR** from Pennsylvania.
GUESTS: **ANDERS EKERNAS**, as a guest of **STEVE BOIES**.

BIRTHDAYS: **GEORGE DIPPY**, 86; **PAUL KEELER**, 76; **DICK FORD**, 92; **BOB CAREY**, 88; **TONY COCCHI**, 79; and **ART ROBINSON**, 89.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY: **ARNOLD GORDON** provided us with two nuggets of humor. The first, a "groaner" (despite "speakers off") concerned Egyptian cab drivers sounding their horns in unison. The second concerned an unorthodox way to effect change in the U.S. Congress.

TREASURER: **JEFF JUNKER** reported that 179 members have paid their dues at this time.

PROGRAM: **BOB PHILLIPS** cued us into today's speaker, Larry Kantor, who will address us on "The Economy, Financial Markets and the Pandemic: Where Do We Go from Here?"

HOLLISTER STURGIS previewed next week's speaker, **DR. ED MILLER**. A fellow member since last year, **ED** has had a distinguished career in anesthesiology and medical administration. He has served both as Dean of the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and CEO of the Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions. He will speak to us on "The Past and Future of Medical Schools and Health Care Systems". **HOLLISTER** emphasized that these webinars are open to the community at large.

GERALD GIBIAN wants to alert us to the App "Just Watch" along with "Hoopla" a service available through the Greenwich Library, which may be used for free access to streaming videos such as "A French Village."

SPECIAL EVENTS: **DON CONWAY** noted that the Army-Air Force football game at West Point in November is still on the schedule. He would like to know of those who are interested in attending. **TOM HEALY** informed us that the Belmont Racetrack trip is scheduled for Sept. 24, provided that the track is open then. The fee is \$90.

BOB PHILLIPS reported that Call A Ride is suspended on account of the pandemic. Meals on Wheels has been in increasing demand, especially during late March and early April. Drivers need to be younger than age 65. Bag pickups are at a tent adjacent to the parking lot.

GAMES AND DIVERSIONS

GOLF: PAUL CAMPION tallied 20 players this past Tuesday. The course is in great shape. Four slots are available for next week. Those interested should sign up with him by Thursday at paulcampion1@optonline.net.

TENNIS: ANDY HOLMES noted that the indoor tennis season will begin in early September and go until May. (Old Greenwich Tennis Academy, Fridays from 1:30 to 3:00.) Approximately 20 men have signed up so far. (Contact andyholmes56@gmail.com or 203 615 3351)

OUTDOOR TENNIS: JOHN KNIGHT reported that courts at Binney Park are available "one at a time". For more information, contact **ANDRZEJ MAZUREK** at mazurek.a.j@gmail.com or at 914 483 8416. Tennis courts at Greenwich High School are also available.

PICKLEBALL: JOHN KNIGHT reports that we are unable to use the courts at Loughlin Ave. (You may attempt to reserve at greenwichct.gov/webtrack)

TAI CHI: WILL MORRISON announced classes through ZOOM, Mondays, and Fridays at 3 PM. Participants are requested to "pay forward" any fees to Neighbor to Neighbor.

WALKING: TAD LARRABEE asked walkers to assemble at Greenwich Point on Thursday, 6/18 at 9 AM for a leisurely stroll.

TODAY'S SPEAKER

Larry Kantor, Ph.D., is an economist and former Managing Director/Global Head of Research at Barclay's Bank He has been an annual presenter to the RMA. In summary, he informed us that the pandemic has engendered such a massive and rapid collapse of the economy that there is no available "playbook". More than 40 million people filed jobless claims, and the economy fell over 20 per cent in a few months. (We are already in a recovery, albeit a slow one.) Activity will remain below normal for a while--especially for sectors like air travel, hotels, and concerts. Acquisition of a vaccine will be tied to economic recovery. Markets are paradoxically up because the Fed has been flooding the system with money with its "Whatever it Takes" policy stance. This disconnect between markets and the economy will have to be rectified at some point. Meanwhile, the problems associated with the financing of "social programs" will be exacerbated, as will income inequality.

NEXT WEEK'S SPEAKER

ED MILLER, M.D. on "The Past and Future of Medical Schools and Health Care Systems."

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