

# CIGAR BOX BULLETIN

Volume 63, No. 39

February 3, 2016

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

President RALPH VIGGIANO called the RMA assembly to order at 10:00 AM sharp and called on JOHN CARON to lead us in The Pledge.

With BOB MORGAN on the keyboard, CHUCK STANDARD led us in singing *The Star Spangled Banner*, *God Bless America*, and *You're a Grand Old Flag*.

BOB LUCE regaled us with the story of Frankie, who knew everyone and proved it through visits with Tom Cruise, Barack Obama and the Pope.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. **RALPH VIGGIANO** announced that the Greenwich Animal Control Dept. will host an open house on February 6, 2016, to promote animal adoption. He also noted that the Navy League will meet and dine at Giovanni's Restaurant in Darien at 6:00 PM on February 11, 2016, and that Greenwich United Way is in the process of assessing Greenwich community needs and urged all to respond to the United Way survey on this subject.
2. **RALPH** announced that the RMA Board of Directors approved an increase in annual dues from \$70.00 to \$80.00 per annum effective May 1, 2016. He also appealed to all to continue to make the weekly \$2.00 contribution to the RMA to cover the costs of meeting incidentals, e.g. coffee, cake, cookies, etc.
3. **HOLLISTER STURGES** urged RMA members and family members, who might have interesting stories to tell, to consider signing up as presenters at our weekly meetings.
4. **HOLLISTER**, on behalf of himself and JIM FISHBEIN, cited the contributions of JOHN CARON, PETER MCSPADDEN, JIM HIMES, and the late WIN ATKINS and BERNARD SCHNEIDER for originating ideas for programs and, with the assistance of former Program Committee chairman, JOHN DECSEPEL, successfully recruiting distinguished speakers for our weekly meetings.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**VISITING:** CHUCK STANDARD noted that JOE MALARA is in Greenwich Hospital, but is not receiving visitors or phone calls. ROBERT WHITBY and HAVEN KNIGHT are doing well at home.

**PROGRAM:** STEVE MARINO advised that today's speaker will be **Col. Alan Clair**, Manager of the Connecticut Shotgun Manufacturers store in Greenwich, who will explain how state-of-the-art shotguns are designed and made.

HOLLISTER STURGES announced that next week's speaker will be **Kermit (Kim) Roosevelt III**, who will discuss the internment of Japanese-Americans during World War II.

**MEMBERSHIP:** HORST TEBBE reported 95 members present along with 4 guests (Ken Irvine g/o ARTO SZABO; James Chung g/o KURT SCHAFFIR; Harold Kupiesky g/o ARTO SZABO; Bill Grempe g/o JACK POOLE). HORST announced that this week's **birthday boys are:** JACK SWEGER (85) and JOHN VECCHIONE (80).

**VOLUNTEER HOURS:** TOM WOOLEY reported that, for the week ending February 3, 2016, 42 men reported 309 volunteer hours on behalf of outside agencies and 23 men reported 125 volunteer hours on behalf of the RMA. The most hours (17) were reported by DON CONWAY.

**SPECIAL EVENTS:** GERRY LESSUK announced that two trips are currently scheduled. See details below.

## FUN AND GAMES

**BRIDGE:** KURT SCHAFFIR reported that the January 27, 2016, game drew 11 players. FRANK LEE (3400), GRANT PERKINS (3380) and BOB UNDERWOOD were high scorers.

**TENNIS:** JOHN KNIGHT reported that on January 29, 2016, Court #1 winners were JOHN KNIGHT and PETER STREICH, and Court #2 winners were SAM MARASSO and BILL FAKUNDINY.

## TODAY'S SPEAKER

Col. Alan Clair, Manager of the Connecticut Shotgun Manufacturers store in Greenwich, offered our members and guests some very interesting insights into how he became interested in the design and manufacture of shotguns, and, in particular, the history of shotgun manufacturing in Connecticut. He captured the attention of attendees with stories of shotguns not only as weapons, but as works of art, which can be priced at hundreds of thousands of dollars.

## SPECIAL EVENTS

*Open to all members, spouses, candidates, and guests. Checks made out to RMA.*

**Bruce Museum: Docent-led tour of two exhibits:** "The Secrets of Fossil Lake," a prehistoric site in Wyoming, and an art exhibit featuring 40 quilts showing four centuries of African-American history. Thursday, February 11, 2016, lunch at The Field Club. No charge for tour. Lunch \$38. Status: Open. Transportation by personal car. ARRIVE AT MUSEUM AT 9:45 AM.

Metropolitan Museum of Art (Guided Tour of the American Wing). Thursday, April 21, 2016. Lunch at Petrie Court Café. Cost:\$95.00 per person. Bus leaves St. Catherine's at 8:30 AM Status: Open.

For more details and to sign-up, contact GERRY LESSUK ([gerrless@att.net](mailto:gerrless@att.net), 203-698-9451) or ABBEY SMOLER ([abbeysmoler@gmail.com](mailto:abbeysmoler@gmail.com), 203-531-0236)

### **NEXT WEEK'S SPEAKER**

Next week the RMA will welcome:

#### **Kermit (Kim) Roosevelt III**

"The internment of Japanese-Americans during World War II." the award-winning author of Allegiance and the great-great-grandson of President Theodore Roosevelt, presents a thought-provoking and compelling conversation based on actual events, real-life figures, and his deep knowledge of government. He masterfully weaves a riveting story of betrayal, disillusionment, and hope that resonates deeply today. Set in World War II, Allegiance recaptures American life and political intrigue in the wake of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. Roosevelt examines what it means to be American and to be loyal to the country and to the Constitution.

Visit our website at [www.greenwichrma.org](http://www.greenwichrma.org).

Respectfully Submitted: **Ed Farrell**

**Visit the RMA website at [www.greenwichrma.org](http://www.greenwichrma.org)**