

# CIGAR BOX BULLETIN

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



[www.greenwichrma.org](http://www.greenwichrma.org)  
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"Spring is sprung/the grass is riz/I wonder where the boidies is"

Promptly at 10 am President **HARDEN** gave the cue for the RMA Song to be played with lyrics displayed. With a virtual Old Glory waving on the screen **JIM BUTLER** rose and recited the pledge.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**ARNOLD GORDON** cautioned members about having their forehead temperature measured at the markets since it might affect your memory; he went to buy eggs and milk and left with two cases of beer. He also introduced what he is calling the RMA Puzzler. Everyone knows that the panel on an airplane is called an instrument panel because it contains all the flight instruments, which help the pilot and co-pilot know where their plane's going. A car also has instruments, but it's not called an instrument panel. We call it a dashboard. So, where does the term "dashboard" come from? First person to give the answer at next week's meeting will have first dibs at the cookies once we meet in person.

He then introduced the master joke teller, **AV RIVEL**, who regaled the assembled with two knee slappers about senior sex.

**RUSS HARDEN** reminded the membership that they had until noon on Tuesday March 30 to vote for next year's officers. Check your email inbox for the ballot.

**JERRY SCHWENDEMAN** lauded and thanked **LEN CARUSI** and **TAD LARRABEE** for developing and implementing this year's on-line voting system, a vast improvement over previous systems.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS



**MEMBERSHIP-PETER STERN** led off the committee reports:

Attendance: 67 Guests: 2

Birthdays: **JIM BOARDMAN**, 78 and **TAD LARRABEE**, 80.



A rousing recorded Happy Birthday Song followed.

Guests: **PETER** had the guests unmute and introduce themselves.

Eric Zitzmann      Guest of **JAN MEYER & PETER SCHIEFERDECKER**.

Joe Angland      Guest of **JERRY POLLACK & PETER BERG**.

“Nomads” (vs. Returnees): **FRANK SCARPA**

Returnees: **PAT MACCARTHY** joined us by Phone.

**VISITING -MIKE AMBROSINO** noted that **MARTIN WAINE** was about to be released from Greenwich Hospital. Thank you, **JOHN CRAINE**, for reporting on **MARTY'S** situation.

**TREASURY – JEFF JUNKER** - reported that there has been some activity in the Treasury as he helped **ANDY HOLMES** set up the indoor tennis league and receive dues from new members. Also, he was pleasantly surprised to find a refund check from the NY Botanical Gardens for the deposit that the Special Event committee made for an event that was cancelled last May.

He is looking forward to a busy week ahead as the Treasurer also serves as tabulator of the on-line voting for the RMA officers during the election which opens today and concludes on March 31st.



## PROGRAM NOTES

Today -**BOB PHILLIPS** gave a heads' up on today's speaker, Captain Jay Dirnberger, a decorated helicopter pilot who fought in Viet Nam. More details below.

**Next Week -PETER BERG** informed all that the speaker on February 24 would be Senator Richard Blumenthal serving his second term representing Connecticut in the US Senate. His talk is titled "Report from Washington -Emerging Opportunities". It promises to be an interesting and stimulating talk.



## FUN AND GAMES

**Indoor Tennis -ANDY HOLMES** was spokesman of the week. Plans have begun for the 2021/2022 indoor tennis season. The season will run from early September through early May with matches being played on Friday afternoons. Approximately 15 deposits have been received to date, so if you would like to join or have any questions you should get in touch with Andy at [andyholmes56@gmail.com](mailto:andyholmes56@gmail.com).

As for last week's tennis results, the winners in the finals round were **ANDRE MAZUREK** and **PAT MACCARTHY** on court 1 and **MIKE SMITH** and **RANDY MOTLAND** on court 2. This week's captain will be **SAM MARASSO**.

**Platform Tennis** RUSS HARDEN reported that four players had a good, non-competitive session of play.

**Pickleball -TONY COCCHI** - There were 10 players this week. We rotated in on two of the 3 available courts: If you are interested in playing notify either:

JOHN KNIGHT at [JohnKnight7@gmail.com](mailto:JohnKnight7@gmail.com)

TONY COCCHI @ [Anthony.Cocchi@Lehman.cuny.edu](mailto:Anthony.Cocchi@Lehman.cuny.edu)

We play Mondays at 1 PM at Christiano Park.

**Tai Chi -WILL MORRISON** calmly announced Research shows that Tai Chi will not help generate good jokes for RMA. But the research does show that it is no sweat to improve your balance, cardio, and flexibility. Join your other RMA members Wednesday at 3:00. Contact **WILL** at [wdmorrison@gmail.com](mailto:wdmorrison@gmail.com) or check [experiencetaichi.org](http://experiencetaichi.org) for the details.

**Walkers -TAD LARRABEE** informed all that the walkers were rained out last Thursday. Things look good for this week. He will be in touch by email.

**Hearts -DON CONWAY** dealt the results:

Winners: **GRANT PERKINS** -x3, **MIKE AMBROSINO** -x1 **JOHN STANKUNAS** x1 Moon shots: only 1 - **JOHN STANKUNA.S**

**Bridge -TONY COCCHI** reports that **ANDRE** left town with the scores. For info about bridge contact **TONY** at: [Anthony.Cocchi@Lehman.cuny.edu](mailto:Anthony.Cocchi@Lehman.cuny.edu)



POST MEETING GABFEST

**TOM HEALY**, speaking for the Melody Men, put out a call for a piano playing person to work with **BOB MORGAN** accompanying those talented MM.

**MICHAEL AMBROSINO** suggested that all golfers sign up for their Griff golf passes for the coming season. This was followed by a wide discussion of things golf and things Griff.

**TONY COCCHI** led a discussion of all things Pickleball.

**DON CONWAY** – dropped a “save The Date” for the RMA picnic to be held Wednesday September 15 at the usual place on Greenwich Point. (Your not-so-humble scribe wondered, at this point, if the proper name for that piece of real-estate is Tod’s Point, or Greenwich Point. The Town of Greenwich refers to it as Greenwich Point Park (Beach).

**TONY COCCHI** -stepped up again and shared that the ROMEO team was back in action planning a start-up. Tentative plan for the first outing is Greenwich Point Park for a brown bag lunch outdoors.



TODAY’S SPEAKER

Captain Jay Dirnberger served in Viet Nam with the US Army starting in 1968. He piloted UH-1H Huey helicopters transporting men and material in and out of battle zones. He was highly decorated for his service.

His presentation was based on an interview for the Library of Congress Veterans History project and included videos of Helicopters in action in Viet Nam.

In addition to telling his personal story of turning down an assignment with the Army Post Office to become a combat helicopter pilot, he spent time explaining the evolution of the use of helicopters in combat. In his estimation helicopters were essential to the outcomes in Viet Nam. It was the first-time helicopters were used so extensively in combat.

When asked why he opted for combat over safer home duty he replied, "somebody had to do it."

The RMA Q&A was spirited and informative.

### NEXT WEEK'S SPEAKER

Senator Richard Blumenthal: "Report from Washington -Emerging Opportunities".

REMINDER: Do not forget to report all your inside and outside volunteer hours to **JOHN FEBLES** at [jfebles13@gmail.com](mailto:jfebles13@gmail.com).

**NOTE TO CBB CONTRIBUTORS:** next week's CBB scribe will be **FRANK SCARPA**. Please send a copy of any remarks you want included in the CBB to **FRANK** at [fjscarpa@optonline.net](mailto:fjscarpa@optonline.net).

**NOTE TO RMA Members:** The CBB Team works every week to write and publish an informative and concise bulletin for our members enjoyment. We can truly use new members to join the CBB Team. Please contact **JOE MANCINELLI** at [jlmanc@optonline.net](mailto:jlmanc@optonline.net) if you are interested in supporting this continuing effort.

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### RMA 2021 CALENDAR

Weekly Repetitive Activities			

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Contact</b>
Mondays	1:00pm	Outdoor Pickle Ball at Christiano Park	Tony Cocchi - anthony.cocchi@lehman.cuny.edu
Tuesdays	9:30 to 11:00	Platform Tennis, Loughlin Ave. Cos Cob	James Dean - jhdeanco@gmail.com
Wednesdays	10:00to 11:00	RMA Weekly Zoom Meeting	Horst Tebbe - onehorst@optimum.net or Len Carusi @ lencarusi@gmail.com
Wednesdays	1:00 to 3:00	On-Line Bridge	Andre Mazurek - mazurek.a.g@gmail.com
Wednesdays	3:00 to 4:00	Zoom: "Tai Chi New Joiners"	Will Morrison - wdmorrison@gmail.com
Thursdays	9:00 AM	RMA Walking	Tad Larrabee - tadlarra@optonline.net
Fridays	1:00 PM	On-Line Hearts	Don Conway - spiderduck4@gmail.com
Fridays	1:30pm to 3:00pm	Indoor Tennis	Andy Holmes - andyholmes56@gmail.com
	Various Times TBD	On-Line Hearts	Don Conway - spiderduck4@gmail.com