CIGAR BOX BULLETIN

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President MIKE SMITH summoned DICK BERGSTRESSER to the microphone to lead the Pledge. WIN ATKINS, with PETER RYAN on the keyboard, led the singing of "America the Beautiful," followed on a less serious note by "For Me and My Gal" and "You Made Me Love You." Then HARRY TWITCHELL narrated a dog story involving the Purina Diet. Returnees are LOUIS CHIAPPETTA from Florida, BOB PHILLIPS from Guatemala, Honduras and Belize; BOB CAREY from Sanibel Island, Fla.; and MIKE SMITH from Acklins Island in the Bahamas.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: BOB PHILLIPS announced that, in connection with the RMA's incorporation, a new set of by-laws has been prepared and has been posted on our web site for everyone's review. Printed copies will be available at next week's meeting, and he will call for a vote at the March 26 meeting. He mentioned that the position of Recording Secretary has been eliminated. BOB LUCE reminded us about the Greenwich Symphony program, including Prokofiev's piano concerto and Beethoven's seventh symphony on March 15 and 16, and Rachmaninoff's piano concerto No. 2 on April 5 and 6. JIM SANTORA asked that we bring contributions for the "Neighbor to Neighbor" food drive to the entrance of our meeting room on March 26. GEORGE STOCKBRIDGE would like to find opera DVD's with subtitles and color. He reminded us of a showing of Mozart's "Don Giovanni" at the Railroad Avenue theater on April 2.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Visiting: CHUCK STANDARD told us that MARTIN GRAYSON is better and may come to our next meeting. RON KLINGNER is in the hospital following a heart attack. STEVE PIERSON had a knee replacement and is in rehab at the Nathaniel Witherell. Membership: JIM FAHY reported a meeting attendance of 122, including two candidates (MIKE ROSE and JACK POOLE) and two guests -- MARTY RANCHE, guest of JIM FAHY, and CHARLEY LAND, guest of PETER UHRY. The birthday boys are: JOHN FEBLES, 70; BILL HOWLAND, 73; and MILES McDONALD, 76. Program: PETER UHRY presented today's speaker, Ms. VIRGINIA GWYNN, Executive Director of the Greenwich Land Trust. BERNARD SCHNEIDER announced next week's speaker will be MISSY WOLFE, who will tell us about the Great Massacre of 1644 – part of Greenwich history.

FUN AND GAMES: KURT SCHAFFIR reported seven bridge players last week. HOLLISTSER STURGES was first with 4450, KURT second with 3560 and RALPH VIGGIANO third with 2720. RALPH VIGGINAO reported on tennis: PETER UHRY and RANDY MOTLAND won on Court 1; and RALPH VIGGIANO and JOHN KNIGHT on Court 2. Contact RALPH to sign up for next season. The deadline is March 26 – requires a \$50 deposit. PETER UHRY announced that golf play this season will be on Tuesdays, starting April 8. Schedules will be posted starting next week – requires \$20, to be collected by PETER or BOB MORGAN.

TODAY'S PROGRAM: We learned that the Greenwich Land Trust is a private, non-profit organization which maintains and restores some 135 properties – mostly open land -- dispersed over 740 acres. It protects upland forests and meadows as well as fresh water and picturesque coastal environments. It is engaged in a variety of projects such as the Audubon Center, American chestnut tree restoration, the Mueller property restoration, and a variety of youth programs. Volunteers are invited (203-629-2151).

SPECIAL EVENTS

For information contact RICH LIMBACKER or JERRY LESSUK. Checks to be made to RMA.

Thursday April 17, 8:15 a.m. – Norman Rockwell Museum. Lunch at Red Lion Inn. \$85 per person. Ten openings.

Thursday May 22, 9:30 a.m. – Goodspeed – "Damn Yankees." \$112 per person. Lunch at Gelston House. On ticket exchange.

June – date to be announced. Belmont Race Track.

Sunday July 27th, 9:15 a.m. Easter Civic Center. Tanglewood. Up-front seating. Apple Tree Inn.

August 24: Goodspeeed. "Fiddler on the Roof."

NEXT WEEK

The speaker will be MISSY WOLFE, who will tell us about the Great Massacre of 1644.

Visit our website! greenwichrma.org. And watch the RMA.