



CIGAR BOX BULLETIN

Retired Men's Association of Greenwich, Inc.

60 Years of Fellowship and Community Service
Visit us on the web at www.greenwichrma.org



Here are the volunteers who publish this Bulletin each week for your enjoyment. **Editor/Chairman:** Chet Risio. **Scribes:** Av Rivel, Kurt Schaffir, Ed Farrell, Chet Risio, Gerry Lessuk, Steve Elliot, and George Stockbridge, Emeritus. (On leave: Gran Burgess, and Arnold Gordon). **Archivist:** Harold Frost. **Format and Layout:** Gene Schwartz, Jack Cuff, and Andre Mazurek. **Reproduction/Distribution:** Walker Collins, and Chet Risio.

Volume 64, No. 45

March 22, 2017

"A lot of people like snow. I find it an unnecessary freezing of water" -Carl Reiner

Subbing for vacationing President UHRY, DON CONWAY coaxed the assembled retirees to their seats a few minutes after 10 AM to start the meeting.

BOB BISHOP led the pledge with élan. He was followed by well tonsiled JERRY SCHWENDEMAN and deft fingered GEORGE STOCKBRIDGE who led the singing of *You're a Grand Old Flag*, *Toot-Toot-Tootsie Goodbye*, and *Zippity Doo Da*. A banner day for nonsense syllables.

It was TOM HEALY's turn to be Corresponding Secretary and he told a story about proud Catholic parents. TOM will be back later.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. DON CONWAY –

A. Read the list of returnees: MARIO BONAPARTE from Fayetteville, NC, REID MCINTYRE from Singer Island, FL and PETER STERN from "all over Florida".

B. Encouraged members to attend the BET meeting on Thursday 3/23 to hear a discussion of the budget and learn where your taxes are going.

2. STEVE BOIES

A. Is retiring as RMA treasurer. A replacement has been found, but his computer skills are rusty. They are looking for a person savvy in Excel and/or Quickbooks to serve as assistant treasurer. See STEVE.

B. RMA is sponsoring a book talk at the Greenwich Library on April 19 in the library meeting room. The book to be discussed by the author is: *1941*, by Marc Wotman. The author will also appear at the RMA that morning to talk about the book.

The book follows the efforts of FDR to aid the British before the entry of the US into the war. It also follows the efforts of the “America First” movement to keep the US out of war. STEVE and JOHN CARON have read the book and recommend it.

3. GEORGE STOCKBRIDGE - The Shakespeare group has gotten legs and is looking for 2 or 3 additional members. The group will be watching, on video, plays by the Bard and discussion by a professor from Washington and Lee U. They are particularly looking for members with large screen TV’s and capacity for 6 viewers. Please call GEORGE at 203 698-0710 to secure a place in the group.

4. TOM HEALY reported that the Melody Men were down in numbers and extolled the virtues of participating. First rehearsal is scheduled for Friday 3/24 at 9:30 AM at the First Congregational Church in Old Greenwich. New singers are encouraged to attend.

5. BOB PHILLIPS presented the candidate slate for the election to be held on March 29, 2017. Before the election, additional nominations will be taken from the floor.

OFFICE	NOMINEE
President/Director	DON CONWAY
1 ST Vice President/Director	TAD LARRABEE
2nd Vice President/ Director	JERRY SCHWENDEMAN
3rd Vice President/ Director	RUSS HARDEN
Secretary/Director	JIM SANTORA
Treasurer/Director	JOE DOWLING
Director-at-large	KLAUS JANDER
Director-at-large	MIKE AMBROSINO
Membership Committee Chairman	HORST TEBBE
Program Committee Chairmen	HOLLISTER STURGES
Special Events Committee	ABBEY SMOLER - Chairman
Publicity Committee Chairman	JACK CUFF
Next year's Nominating Council	PETER UHRY - Chairman, RALPH VIGGIANO, AL KNIGHT, HORST TEBBE, BOB BISHOP and JACK WEIR (3 year term starting May 1, 2017)
Non-Director Standing Committee Chairmen	
CBB Committee	CHET RISIO
Volunteer Committee	PETER STERN - Chairman GERRY MAYFIELD - Vice Chairman

MEMORIAL – GEORGE MONROE EVANS – TOM HEALY delivered the memorial.

GEORGE EVANS died peacefully at his home on February 28. He was a long-time Greenwich resident and RMA member. He served in the Navy in Korea and worked for

CNA Insurance before starting his own consulting firm. His wife predeceased him. Children, grandchildren and siblings survive him. A private memorial will be held. Donations may be made to Home Hospice Care at Greenwich Hospital.

COMMITTEES

VISITING: CHUCK STANDARD noted that PHIL SMITH is in home hospice care and TED SPOOL is still undergoing testing. On an up note, CHUCK welcomed back REID MCINTYRE and ED BLOOM.

MEMBERSHIP: HORST TEBBE tolled the numbers and feted the birthday boys. There were no inductees. Present and accounted for were 93 members, 2 candidates and 2 guests; Alex Gospodinoff, guest of BILL WIGGIN and Tom West, guest of PETER UHRY. Natal day celebrants were JIM BOARDMAN 74, JOHN FEBLES 73, BILL HOWLAND 76, MILES MCDONALD 79, LOU CHIAPPETTA 97!?, DON MININI 83, CHET RISIO 89 and PETE MAHER 78. HAPPY CANDLES, MEN!

VOLUNTEERS: PETER STERN noted that for the week ending MARCH 22, 34 men reported 354 volunteer hours for outside agencies, and 20 men reported 156 volunteer hours for the RMA. HOLLISTER STURGES was high man with 48 accumulated hours.

PROGRAMS: HOLLISTER STURGES head's upped today's speaker (details below) and next week's presenter, Page Knox, Lecturer at Columbia University and the Metropolitan Museum of Art who will enlighten us about John Singer Sargent and his friends, including Alfred Sisley whose work is currently being shown at the Bruce Museum.

SPECIAL EVENTS: MIKE FERRARESE delivered the status report below:

THE SCOREBOARD

BRIDGE: GRANT PERKINS dealt the scores: #1 JAMES CHUNG 6880, #2 GRANT PERKINS 6490 and #3 MARTY WAINE 4360. The bridge game has returned to the YMCA at its traditional time: 1:00PM. The card room is on the third floor.

TENNIS: GERRY GIBIAN served up the scores: Court 1, HIMSELF and MIKE SMITH, Court 2: PETER STREICH and JOHN KNIGHT. Next week's captain: MIKE SMITH

GOLF: MIKE RYAN teed off for the season announcing the first RMA golf outing would be April 4 at the usual spot. Signup sheets are on the board for 4/4 and 4/11. He will be collecting dues starting 3/29.

TODAY'S SPEAKER

Paula Hopewell; freelance Lincoln historian speaking on "*Abraham Lincoln and the Border Region: Perspectives from the Mason-Dixon Line*". Ms. Hopewell presented an

idiosyncratic view of Abraham Lincoln's life and times, concentrating on the influence of his Kentucky roots on his life and presidency. FYI, the Ohio River which separates Kentucky, a slave state that did not secede, and Ohio, a free state, is the Mason-Dixon line in that area. Hopewell, a former math major, spent some time analyzing the elections of 1860 and 1864. We learned, for instance, that in 1864 Lincoln only garnered 44% of the vote in Greenwich. It was a fact-filled, interesting presentation. The usual spirited RMA Q&A followed.

SPECIAL EVENTS

The Events are open to all members, spouses, candidates and guests. For reservations contact trip coordinators ABBEY SMOLER (203-531-0236) and MIKE FERRARESE (203-554-0678). Checks for payment are to be made out to the RMA, and must be received within two (2) weeks following the making of the reservations or the reservations will be cancelled.

- [Lamont Earth Observatory - March 30, 2017](#); In House Lunch; Cost \$60 per person; Bus departs from St. Catherine at 9 AM. 4 Places available.
- [Culinary Institute & FDR Museum - April 20, 2017](#); Lunch at the Caterina De Medici Restaurant; Cost \$96 per person; Bus departs from St. Catherine 9:30 AM; 2 openings.
- [New York Botanical Gardens- May 25, 2017](#)- Bus transportation – departure from St. Catherine's at 8:30 a.m. Lunch at Mario's Italian Restaurant -- \$98 per person. 5 Places available

NEXT WEEK'S SPEAKER

Next week the RMA will welcome: **Page Knox** speaking about John Singer Sargent and friends.

Scribe of the Week: **Av Rivel**, anxiously awaiting spring.

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