

CIGAR BOX BULLETIN

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May 25, 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

Our debt to the heroic men and valiant women in the service of our country can never be repaid. They have earned our undying gratitude. America will never forget their sacrifices.

President **H.S. Truman**



Patriotically bedecked in a sweater emblazoned with the Stars and Stripes President PETER UHRY called the faithful to order at 10 AM. DON CONWAY ably led the pledge. The musical duo of TOM HEALY and JIM SANTORA then led a medley of songs dedicated to American fighting men and women. *America the Beautiful, The Air Force Song, Anchors Aweigh, The Caissons Song and the Marine Hymn.* It is noted that this is the longest RMA medley in recorded history.



ANNOUNCEMENTS:

PETER UHRY:

1. Kudos to JIM MACKAY who just returned from Washington DC on an Honor Flight for WW II Vets. RMA vets interested should contact JIM.
2. Opined that the Old Greenwich Memorial Day Parade was the best in town and encouraged all to attend this year.
3. A fundraiser by the Greenwich Arts Council for Greenwich Schools will be held the evening of May 25.
4. **RETURNEES:** AV RIVEL from Prague and Budapest and points in-between. DON HERMANN from Phoenix, La Jolla and Palo Alto. Welcome Back, Guys!

BOB ROBINS served up details of the next ROMEO lunch, June 8 at the Stanwich Club. Further details are on the bulletin board.

DOUG FRANCEFORT reported that due to weather, flag planting at the military cemetery is postponed from Tuesday to Wednesday.

ARNOLD GORDON reported in rhyme that the first RMA Limerick contest is a reality.

Call him for details
Or send him an e-mail
To submit your name
Your wit to proclaim
The prize might cover your bail

AJGordo@verizon.net 203-340-9336

CHUCKLE OF THE WEEK: BOB LUCE presented a math lesson as imagined by the NRA.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

VISITING: CHUCK STANDARD presented the first 2017 calendars of the year. He also reported on the health status of JOE MALARA, JACK BAUSMAN, JIM BUTLER, RAY SLOAN and BILL DYNAN.

PROGRAM: JOHN DECSEPEL gave a head's up on this week's speaker, Connecticut State Senator from the 36th Assembly District, **L. Scott Franz**. JIM FISHBEIN announced that next week's speaker would be **Heather Ewing**, daughter of RMAer TED EWING who would enlighten us about the Smithsonian Institute and its founder James Smithson.

MEMBERSHIP: HORST TEBBE ran the numbers, 120 members, 2 candidates (soon to be 1) and 3 guests. He introduced the guests, Joe Mancinizi g.o. MIKE AMBROSINO, Don Breitmeister, g.o. WAYNE DEVRIES and Dick Lewis g.o. GARY MILLER.



Members serenaded by the group to celebrate their natal day included TOM HEALY-78, JOHN ROMANS-74, DICK BERGSTRESSER-82 and AL KNIGHT-74.

INDUCTEE Sponsored by BOB ALDEN and CHARLIE MOSHER, Wally Benneville was unanimously inducted into our venerated group. A graduate of Rutgers University and a former Insurance Exec, Wally is an avid golfer and fisher person.

VOLUNTEERS: HARRY TWITCHELL volunteered to read the numbers. 579 hours by 45 men, outside and 143 hours by 29 men for the RMA. High scorer for the week: KEN HAGMAN with 39 hours.

THE SCORE BOARD:

In an effort to keep us all on our toes, PRESIDENT UHRY messed with the usual order of reporting sports results. We're callin' em like we seez 'em.

TENNIS-TED SPOOL served up the good news that summer tennis is in full swing. There is room for more players, every Monday and Thursday, 9-11 AM the Town Tennis Courts off Loughlin Avenue in Cos Cob.

GOLF: MIKE SMITH regrettably announced that due to inclement weather, this week's golf was washed out.

BRIDGE: KURT SCHAFFIR dealt the numbers. 8 players with some new names on the winner's board: Sanjay Santhanam 3580, Andre Mazurek 3470 and himself, KURT SCHAFFIR 3260.

SPECIAL EVENTS: ABBEY SMOLER announced that the proposed Schooner Soundwaters Sundown Sail was on, details on this and all programs below.

TODAY'S SPEAKER:

State Senator **L. Scott Franz** criticized his fellow legislators in Hartford for not doing enough to encourage economic development in the state. Connecticut is neither the worst nor the best state in the country in terms of economic health, but if something is not done it could get worse. Turn-around is possible, he said, using New York and Rhode Island as models. A lively RMA Q&A followed his stimulating talk.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Open to all Members, Guests, Candidates and spouses. Checks should be made out to RMA.

We will be fortunate to have GERRY LESSUK (203-698-9451) as a sign-up contact until June 17, 2016, when he will relinquish his leadership to ABBEY SMOLER (abbeymoler@gmail.com, 203-531-0236) and MIKE FERRARESE (203-554-0678, myagentmike@yahoo.com). See below for upcoming event details.

Belmont Race track. Thursday, June 16, 2016. Buffet lunch in Belmont Room. Cost: \$75.00 per person. Bus leaves St. Catherine's at 10:30 AM. Status: Open – 16 places available.

Soundwaters Schooner Sunset Sail July 14, 2016, 3-5:30 PM Own transportation (details to follow) \$65 (MIKE FERRARESE 554-0678

Goodspeed Opera House – Bye Bye Birdie – Thursday 8/11 - \$115, buss transportation and dinner at the Gelston House. MIKE FERRARESE

NEXT WEEK'S SPEAKER

Art historian, **Heather Ewing** on "The Smithsonian Institution and its Fascinating History"

AV RIVEL – Editor!



Visit our website at www.greenwichrma.org

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