

CIGAR BOX BULLETIN

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



www.greenwichrma.org

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SCRIBE: AV RIVEL

"Isn't it fun to go out to the golf course and lie in the sun?" - Bob Hope

In-person meetings start again on Wednesday, June 16, @9:45 am

There will be NO pre-meeting chat on Zoom

Regarding the resumption of in-person meetings next Wednesday, at the First Presbyterian Church:

[Click here](#) to read [new safety rules](#).

[Click here](#) for info on [parking passes](#).

[Click here](#) for info on [future meetings](#).

President **MICHAEL AMBROSINO**, citing a heavy agenda, opened the meeting a minute early with the RMA song. Corresponding Secretary **ARNOLD GORDON** then led the pledge to the flag.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

ARNOLD GORDON reported that former member **CORY DUNHAM** passed away on May 26th at age 93. He joined the RMA in July 2000 but was unable to attend meetings after 2018 due to illness. **PETER SCHIEFERDECKER**, who was a close friend of **CORY**, gave a memorial. [Click here](#) for [Cory's obituary](#) and [Click Here](#) for [Cory's memorial](#).

ARNOLD then reminded us that the annual picnic was scheduled for September 15. More info will follow. He also reminded all presenters that at the in-person meetings it is both required and courteous for presenters to provide the Scribe of the day with the text of their remarks in a clear, legible paper document. This excludes scraps of paper.

Finally, he introduced jokester of the week **BOB CAREY**, who regaled us with a story about a nun who wasn't.

President **AMBROSINO** announced that in order to speed up the meeting, the Treasurer's report would no longer be weekly, but on an as-required basis. Also, that indoor tennis would not be reported on until just before the season starts. Likewise, volunteer hours would be collected in real time, by email, but reported on a monthly basis.

MICHAEL further informed all that he was looking for a "plan B" meeting place, perhaps the First Congregational Church in Old Greenwich.


JOHN FEBLES, Man of the Hours, repeated that volunteer hours would no longer be collected at the meetings, but rather should be submitted by e-mail to **JOHN** at ifebles13@gmail.com. **JOHN** also gave notice that the Salvation Army of Greenwich was looking for a treasurer. Those interested should contact him.

PETE UHRY continued to beat the drum for RMA hats. You still have time to order an RMA hat.... he will be taking orders this week and at the June 16th meeting. We are talking steel-blue, adjustable, washable, ever-loving wonderful, publicity-prone RMA logoed hats for \$14. No cash needed now, but you must place your order with **PETER** at uhry@sbcglobal.net. Supplies are limited (500 is the limit). Don't be left out of this fabulous summer opportunity (never again to be offered until possibly next year) to keep your balding head covered and help promote your favorite association. Sunscreen is not included in this offer.

TONY COCCHI reviewed plans for the ROMEO, Walkers and Tai Chi event at Greenwich Point, which will be held on Thursday, June 10th.

HORST TEBBE reported that in preparation for the resumption of in-person meetings next week his tech team had tested a dry run of a meeting that was both on-line and in person. All were very happy with the results. He promised that "we can reach anybody that wants to be reached"

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership: **PETER STERN** led off the committee reports by announcing that this meeting's attendance was 70 members and one guest. Michael Karp was the guest of **AV RIVEL**. Birthdays were **BILL SALTSMAN, 95, GEORGE DIPPY, 87, BOB MORGAN, 85,** and **MICHAEL AMBROSINO, 76**. All were serenaded, more or less . The Nomad this week was **RICK HOLZ**, who joined us from Florida.

Next came the induction of Mike Catalano, sponsored by **JEFF JUNKER** and seconded by **PETER STERN**. Mike is a native of Greenwich and a graduate of Greenwich High and Southern Connecticut State. He ran his own computer company, Computers Plus in Stamford, and is a supporter of live theatre in Stamford. He played varsity baseball in high school and college and just recently hung up his glove. **MIKE** was unanimously accepted by the membership. To see his full bio, [click here](#).

Visiting: **MICHAEL AMBROSINO** noted that **JOE ROE** is recovering from cancer treatment, and thanked **PETER STERN** for phoning in that information.

Treasurer: Treasurer **JEFF JUNKER** reported that:

1. A copy of the Treasurer's report for May [click here](#), which shows the fiscal year 2021-2022 budget (3rd column), as approved by the Board. The membership will be asked to vote to approve this budget at our June 16 meeting next week.
2. Dues: As of June 8th, 106 members had mailed in their membership dues of \$100 for the new fiscal year which started May 1, 2021.
3. Renewal of membership in the RMA will continue over the next 3 weeks. As was done last year, please write out a check for \$100 made payable to "RMA" and mail it to the treasurer at the following address: 9 Tree Top Terrace, Greenwich 06831.

Volunteer Hours: **JOHN FEBLES** reported the volunteer hours for May: total outside, 418, inside 150. The member with the most accumulated hours is **BOB GRAYSON** with 225.

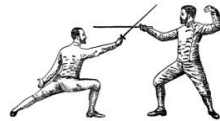


PROGRAM NOTES

Today's speaker. ARTHUR STAMPLEMAN gave a head's up on today's speaker, Rob MacKay, who recently published a book called *Historic Houses of Queens*, and who will talk on all things Queens.



Next week. BOB MEANEY prepared us for next weeks' speaker, John Hibbing, PhD, a Distinguished Professor of Political Science at the University of Nebraska. His talk is titled "The Secutarian Personality – What really Motivates Trump's Base and Why it Matters for the Post Trump Era." He will speak live from Nebraska. Stay tuned, sounds stimulating and challenging.



THE SPORTS PAGE

Pickleball: JOHN KNIGHT reported that we play Pickleball Mondays and Thursdays from 9-11 at the Christiano Park courts. Last Thursday was rained out. We had 8 players on Monday.

Golf: PAUL CAMPION reported, "Well, it was a bright day when we began. Sixteen golfers spent most of the day hiding from the humidity and watching the clouds and then, THE RAIN! But always good fun. **JIM SANTORA** birdied the seventh hole for the second time this season! **PETER STERN** also had a birdie before the deluge. Next week play begins late again, at 11:10 am. Get indications to paulcampion1@optoline.net ASAP. IF YOU PLAN TO USE a CART, indicate with (R); (we now have two men to a Cart, to share the cost). When we start meeting at the church, we will be able post the sign-up sheets for the next Tuesday and the following week, as we used to. That will simplify the "sign up" process a lot!"

To this, **PETE UHRY** added the following anecdote. “In their haste to avoid the approaching thunderstorms, two of our most respected members hung up their cart on a curbing... prompting the real excitement for the afternoon of getting it free. Quiz: How many RMA members with bad backs does it take to free a hung-up golf cart? (Answer: eight, five to lift and three to confirm they have bad backs).”

Tai Chi: WILL MORRISON looked forward to seeing all at the ROMEO lunch tomorrow. There will be a hands-on demonstration of the arcane and mystical art of the Tai Chi Walk. Walking on water is not guaranteed.

Otherwise, he continued, join us Wednesdays at 4:00 to explore Tai Chi at the Greenwich Commons Park, depending on the weather. Other classes are Tuesdays at 9:00 am and Thursdays 4:00 pm at the First Congregational Church of Old Greenwich. He has reached out to the Senior Center to understand when we might restart the Tai Chi class there. Be sure to let **WILL** know if you intend to stop by. In lieu of a class fee, a donation to a charity is required. Contact wdmorrison@gmail.com. For more information about Tai Chi visit experiencetaichi.org

Walkers: TAD LARRABEE reported that the Walkers were rained out last Thursday.

Hearts: JERRY SCHWENDEMAN reported on two hearts sessions. June 3rd winners were **JOHN STANKUNAS (2), TOM HEALY, GRANT PERKINS** and **MICHAEL AMBROSINO (1 each)**. Moon shots by **TOM HEALY (2), JOHN STANKUNAS (1)**.

On June 7th the winners were **ANDY HOLMES (3), TOM MORONEY (2), JACK SWEGER (1)**. Moonshots: **JACK SWEGER (3), JOHN KNIGHT (2), TOM MORONEY (1), ANDY HOLMES (1)**.

Bridge: TONY COCCHI dealt the scores: **ED MASTOLONI, 3,920 points, TONY COCCHI, 3,900 points, ANDRE MAZUREK 3,540 points. ED and ANDRE bid and made a slam worth 1,430 points.**



TODAY'S SPEAKER



ARTHUR STAMPLEMAN introduced Rob MacKay and his talk “Historic Houses of Queens,” which might have been titled, “Everything you ever wanted to know about Queens but didn’t know to ask.” It was based on his recently published book by the same name, which is available at Diane’s Books in Greenwich (shameful commercialism).

MacKay started by showing old photographs of early homes built in Queens, some still standing and inhabited. He used the homes for a base to riff on famous residents of Queens and their stories. This layer exposed snips of the history of Queens. Rob easily morphed into contemporary attractions in that outer borough. In testament to his story telling prowess, his talk lasted just about an hour and the spirited Q & A ran past the noon hour. A most enjoyable talk.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS!

TO CBB CONTRIBUTORS: next week’s CBB scribe will be →**ARNOLD GORDON**←. Please send a copy of any remarks you want included in the CBB promptly to **ARNOLD** at ajgordo@verizon.net.

TO ALL RMA MEMBERS: Don’t forget to report your inside and outside volunteer hours to **JOHN FEBLES** at jfebles13@gmail.com.

ALL MEMBERS are reminded that in addition to streaming on the Internet, RMA speakers are normally shown each week on the local public access TV channels, Verizon FIOS channel 24 and Optimum (Cablevision) channel 79.

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RMA 2021 CALENDAR

Weekly Repetitive Activities*			
Day	Time	Activity	Contact
Mondays	10:00 am	Outdoor Pickle Ball at Christiano Park	Tony Cocchi - anthony.cocchi@lehman.cuny.edu
Mondays	2:00 pm	Hearts	Andy Holmes – andyholmes56@gmail.com Don Conway – spiderduck4@gmail.com
Various	various	Hearts	Michael Ambrosino – brooklynoil@yahoo.com
Tuesdays	Various tee times	RMA Golf, “The Griff Golf Course,” Greenwich	Paul Campion – paulcampion1@optonline.net
Wednesdays	9:45 to 10:30 am	RMA Weekly Zoom Meeting	Horst Tebbe - onehorst@optimum.net or Len Carusi @ lencarusi@gmail.com
Wednesdays	1:00 to 3:00 pm	On-Line Bridge	Andre Mazurek - mazurek.a.j@gmail.com
Wednesdays	4:00 to 5:00 pm	“Tai Chi New Joiners” – Greenwich Commons	Will Morrison - wdmorrison@gmail.com
Thursdays	9:00 am	RMA Walking	Tad Larrabee - tadlarra@optonline.net
Thursdays	9:00 am 10:00 am	Tennis Pickleball Both at Christiano Park	Tony Cocchi - anthony.cocchi@lehman.cuny.edu

*Day & time of some events may vary; check with contact