

CIGAR BOX BULLETIN

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, Fred Waldron; **Archivist:** Harold Frost; **Printing:** Chet Risio, Larry Schmitz

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“The happiest people are not those getting more, but those giving more.”

President VIGGIANO, after finally gathering the troops rang the bell on the first RMA meeting following Independence Day 2015. DICK BERGSTRESSER led the pledge. Then, in a switch in roles BOB MORGAN stepped out from behind the Steinway and led the songfest with the able accompaniment of JIM SANTORA. The selections were *America the Beautiful, Oklahoma and That's Amore.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS: RALPH VIGGIANO

- Reminder – Cars parked on the street must feed the meter, tickets have been issued.
- The names of those who have not paid their dues are on the bulletin board. Please pay.
- Returnees: DAN GRIMSICH, Clearwater, FL, SAM MARASSO, Cape Cod, TED SPOOL, Scandinavia

PRESIDENT'S SHOUT-OUT for recognition of service to the RMA

JIM FAHY, KURT SCHAFFIR, ARNOLD GORDON, DICK BARTHOLOMEW,

LOU CHIAPPETTA and ED PARKER

- Noted the passing of three RMA members this past week, MIKE GALLELA, STEVE PIERSON and BERNARD SCHNEIDEDR

RALPH VIGGIANO and HOLLISTER STURGES shared remembrances and accomplishments of the late BERNARD SCHNEIDER, noted as an invaluable member of the RMA and the community, as well as a force for good. BILL DYNAN delivered the eulogy.

PETER UHRY: Has RMA shirts and hats for those who ordered them, PLEASE pick them up

JOHN FEBLES: Greenwich Land Trust is having an event on 9/20 at the G'wich Polo Club and needs volunteer "Line Managers" from 3-6 PM. Contact: Virginia Gwynn 203-629-2151 X 101

BOB PHILLIPS – ***READ THIS, IT'S IMPORTANT:*** In the future, in order to park in the municipal lot without feeding the meter an RMA Parking pass will be required. They will be distributed by e-mail. They should be printed out and placed on the dashboard of the car near the steering wheel. If you are not reachable by e-mail, contact BOB.

The joke de jour about how Alaskans party was delivered by JERRY SCHWENDERMAN

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

VISITING: CHUCK STANDARD not only noticed what a lovely day it was but offered three 2016 calendars. He reported that RICH LIMBACHER finally got his new knee, and WIN ADKINS is home from surgery, please keep visits short. Welcome Back ! FRANK STARPA.

PROGRAM: HOLLISTER STURGES gave a heads up on today's program (more below) and JOHN CARON announced that Gordon Beinstein the principal at Western Middle School would speak on the "Educational equality gap" in Greenwich, the country and world-wide. Promises to be enlightening.

MEMBERSHIP: HORST TEBBE reported attending were 119 members, 3 candidates and 3 guests:

David Bureson and Lynton Kaufman g/o GEORGE STOCKBRIDGE, and Peter Tunley g/o RUSS HARDEN were in attendance. **Birthday Boys were:** JOE MALARA 95, DAN FRIEDLAND 81, DON DWORREN 86, GEORGE EVANS 85, TOM CAHILL 84, Happy candles and cake guys !

INDUCTEE: RICHARD ROBERTS (DICK) was sponsored by BOB WYLIE and STEVE MYERS. DICK is a former Mad Man and documentary film maker originally from Chicago. He is an avid sailor and Jazz musician who also plays the musical saw, a rare and wonderful skill. Welcome aboard !

VOLUNTEERS: STEVE MARINO tallied 325 hours by 38 members to outside agencies and 180 hours for RMA activities by 31 members. MIKE AMOROSO was high man with 70 accumulated hours!

SPECIAL EVENTS: GERRY LESSUK entered stage left and reported on the events listed below which includes a new event, The Westchester Broadway Dinner Theatre, check it out!

SCOREBOARD: BRIDGE: JOHN FEBLES dealt the scores from last week, HOLLISTER STURGES 4520, BRUNO SCHRAGE 3330 and BOB UNDERWOOD 2430. **GOLF:** JOHN AWDZIEWICZ swung out the report on last week's highpoints, closest to pin on 7 –JAY SCHONDORF closest on 15, TOM HEALY, longest drive on 17, KIP SCHULZE. 10 men broke 100, led by President RALPH's 85 and DICK BARTHOLOMEW's 88.

TENNIS: TED SPOOL Served up the info that the program was going well, but there was still room for more players.

TODAY'S PROGRAM: JIM FISHBEIN from the Program Committee introduced HOLLISTER STURGES who introduced our speaker of the day, **Robert Henry**. Mr. Henry, a former executive with Coopers and Lybrand is an avid traveler and has a special interest in the Middle East which he visited frequently; the last time in 2011, just before the Syrian "civil war" broke out.

He was informed, articulate and worked without a script or teleprompter.

To sum up his talk in a phrase "its complicated" The area is a *mélange* of cultures, religions, nationalities and tribal loyalties. Sunni's, Shiites, Alewites, Wahabi, Salafi, Kurd, and Christian to name a few. The rise of ISIS has added a new dimension to this multidimensional problem. When asked outright, Henry would not predict the outcome.

A spirited Q & A followed.

AV RIVEL –Today's Editor

SPECIAL EVENTS

Open to all members, spouses, candidates, and guests. Checks made out to RMA.

August 9: Tanglewood/Boston Symphony, \$125, Rest. Apple Tree Inn. **Wait List**.

September 17, Westchester Broadway Dinner Theatre *Backwards in High Heels*. (The Ginger Rogers story) \$85 – 20 places available

October 22, Goodspeed Opera, *A Wonderful Life* \$115 – 35 places available

NEXT WEEK's SPEAKER

– **Gordon Beinstein**, Principal Western Middle School

Visit our website at www.greenwichrma.org