



CIGAR BOX BULLETIN

Retired Men's Association of Greenwich, Inc.

www.greenwichrma.org

This Bulletin is brought to you each week by these volunteers
Scribes: **Av Rivel, Kurt Schaffir, Arnold Gordon, Ed Farrell, Gerry Lessuk, George Stockbridge, Dan Fredland, Joe Mancinelli, Frank Scarpa, Marshall Toppo.** On leave: **Steve Elliott,**
Archivist: **Harold Frost.** Format: **Jack Cuff, Andrzej Mazurek, Gene Schwartz.** Print/Dist: **Chet Risio**

“Man's capacity for justice makes democracy possible” ...Reinhold Niebuhr

Volume 66 Number 11 July 18, 2018 Scribe: MARSHALL TOPPO

TAD LARRABEE rang the bell and called the meeting to order at 10:02. BOB BISHOP led the pledge and JACK SWEGER was song leader.

The members sang loud and clear *Take Me Out to the Ball Game* followed by *Summertime* and *You'll Never Walk Alone*. GEORGE UBOGY was at the piano.

TOM HEALY left us tittering with a few irreverent funnies.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. TAD LARRABEE:

a. On behalf of JOHN CRAINE, mentioned the RMA raft up will be held starting at noon, Thursday, July 26. Traditional events include both rag haulers (sail) and stink potters (power). The rendezvous location is the anchorage off Great Captain's island. John has planned a sightseeing cruise of Captain Harbor including Island Beach and Wee Captain Island. The raft up should conclude about 2:00pm. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board.

b. Informed us of the death of DOMINICK DIMAIO, July 14 at 93 years old. DOMINICK was a veteran of the Battle of the Bulge. A mass of

Christian burial will be held on July 20, 2018. A eulogy will be delivered at a future RMA meeting.

c. Returnees; JOEL BLUMBERG from Montreal and Quebec City, WAYNE DEVRIES from Maine, SAM MARASSO from Brewster and Cape Cod.

2. JOEL BLUMBERG offered us a brief description of today's guest speaker's presentation; "A History of the Baseball Hall of Fame Ceremony".

3. GERRY SCHWENDEMAN informed us the guest speaker next week will be Martin Tran Nguyen, professor of Islamic religious traditions at Fairfield University. His presentation is entitled, "What is Islam?" GERRY feels you will find his talk a unique revelation. Don't miss it.

4. MICHAEL AMBROSINO said he was still working for our annual picnic. He really needs volunteers to assist him in various chores related to getting the picnic set up. ARNOLD GORDON added that volunteers are needed to help obtain gifts for the picnic raffle. Please contact him at 203 340-9336 or at ajgordon@verizon.net.

COMMITTEES

MEMBERSHIP: HORST TEBBE informed us there were 100 members present and two guests for a total of 102 present. The guests were Sid Hecker, g/o ED FARRELL and Charlie Graves, g/o MIKE SMITH.

There were three birthday boys; BOB BISHOP 84, KEITH SMITH, 79 and ANDRZEJ MAZUREK, 61.

VOLUNTEER HOURS: HAROLD KUPLESKY reported that for the week ending July 18, 2018, there were 347 total outside hours by 32 members and 119 inside hours by 21 members. Top member hours, 57, were by RICH BISK

FUN AND GAMES

BRIDGE: KURT SCHAFFIR advised us that on July 11, 2018 there were eight players. First was TONY COCCHI with 2340, second was RALPH VIGGIANO 1840 and third was RON FRIEDMAN with 1770.

GOLF: MIKE RYAN reported there were 25 players on July 17, 2018. Closest to pin on #7 was RALPH VIGGIANO. Closest to pin on #15 was BILL BURKE. Longest drive on 17 was BILL BURKE. Ten players scored below 100. BILL BURKE came in with a score of 86. MIKE noted that he needs hosts for Aug, Sept and Oct. Sign-up sheets for July 24 and 31 are on the bulletin board.

SUMMER TENNIS TONY COCCHI said there were four players returned at Loughlin courts Monday 9-11.

INDOOR TENNIS: MIKE AMBROSINO has sent an email to all potential players. If you have not received it please contact MIKE at BrooklynOil@yakoo.com. Plan on having

two courts 9/18 – 5/19., Fridays 1:30pm to 3:00pm at OGTA. Costs to be determined but should be between \$425 to \$450 per person.

PICKLEBALL: TONY COCCHI., 11 players, some pretty good competition. Platform tennis courts were used. Reworked Pickleball courts were not available. Needs storage shed and nets. JOHN KNIGHT and I will have access “in process”. Some interest in winter Pickleball. Assume no interest in outdoor play. Thursday 9-11 (Editor’s note; This is verbatim).

HEARTS: PETER BERG reported there were two tables. Eight players at each table completed two games. Winners at table 1 were TOM HEALY and JACK SWEGER. TOM also shot the moon once. At table two MICHAEL AMBROSINO walked away with all the prizes. He won both games and shot the moon twice.

WALKERS: TAD said they a good walk at Greenwich Point last Thursday. How about walking the Zofnass Reserve on Thursday?

SPECIAL EVENTS

Open to all members, guests, candidates and spouses. Checks to be made out to RMA, and must be received within two weeks or the reservation will be cancelled. Contact MIKE FERRARESE (myagentmike@yahoo.com / 203-554-0678) or ABBEY SMOLER (abbeysmoler@gmail.com / 203-531-0235).

Sound Water Cruise: August 30, 2-4 p.m. Snacks served aboard. Cost \$35 Self-drive. Status: 13 openings.

Goodspeed Opera House, “The Drowsy Chaperone” Oct. 25. Lunch at the Gelston House, \$125pp Bus leaves St Catherine’s at 9:15am Status: 35 openings.

TODAY’S SPEAKER

JOEL BLUMBERG introduced Dennis Corcoran, a veteran historian on baseball and, in particular, “Induction Day at the Baseball Hall of Fame”. Mr. Corcoran gave an extensive presentation with projected images. He startled us all by stating the real origin of baseball is unknown. He added that the common belief that it was introduced by Abner Doubleday is quite doubtful. He presented a retrospect of the inductions into the Hall, the first one being in 1939. Inductees that year were baseball icons, among them Babe Ruth, Tris Speaker, George Sisler, Connie Mack and Cy Young. Subsequent years gave us Joe DiMaggio, 1955, Jackie Robinson and Bob Feller, 1962, Ted Williams, 1966, Mickey Mantle and Whitey Ford, 1974, Phil Rizzuto. 1994 and Cal Ripken, 2007.

He mentioned that this year would see Derek Jeter inducted and a crowd of 70,000 is expected. Members appreciated his informative talk.

NEXT WEEK’S SPEAKER

Martin Nguyen, Associate Professor of Religious Studies, Fairfield University.
“Islam; its Faith, Culture and Place in America”.

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