



CIGAR BOX BULLETIN

Retired Men's Association of Greenwich, Inc.

60 Years of Fellowship and Community Service
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Here are the volunteers who publish this Bulletin each week for your enjoyment. **Editor/Chairman:** Chet Risio. **Scribes:** Av Rivel, Gran Burgess, Kurt Schaffir, Arnold Gordon, Ed Farrell, Gerry Lessuk, Steve Elliot, and George Stockbridge, Emeritus. **Archivist:** Harold Frost. **Format and Layout:** Gene Schwartz, Jack Cuff, and Andrzej Mazurek. **Reproduction/Distribution:** Chet Risio.

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July 19, 2017

President **DON CONWAY** called the meeting to order at 10:03. **ERF PORTER** then led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance before guiding the audience through the songfest, *America the Beautiful*, *In The Good Old Summertime* and *Hello, Dolly*, ably assisted by pianist **JIM SANTORA**.

Today's story, provided by ARNOLD GORDON, concerned a truck driver transporting a chimp to the San Diego Zoo. His truck breaks down, and a blonde woman stops to see if she can help. Relieved, the driver gives her \$100 to deliver the chimp to the zoo. Later, driving near the zoo, the driver sees the blonde walking with the chimp on the sidewalk. He asks her what is going on, and she replies that she had money left over after showing the chimp the zoo and was now taking him to visit Sea World. This effort was so well received that Arnold insisted on telling another, which involved whether a man's wife thought he needed to fly a kite or have a piece of tail.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RALPH VIGGIANO presented **suggested revisions to Section 2—Membership of the RMA By-Laws**, revised to make attaining membership less complicated. The revisions were approved by voice vote of the membership present.

MIKE AMBROSINO announced that the **final details of the Fall/Winter tennis season** were being worked out and that specifics of the 17-session program would be available soon.

Parking tickets are still an issue, but it is being worked on. Turn in "meter-expired" tickets to **DON CONWAY** to have them voided.

RALPH VIGGIANO delivered **a memorial for the RMA's recently installed Treasurer, LESLIE CHEIKIN**, who joined the Board shortly after his induction. He was remembered as a quiet man, organized and thoughtful, with a good sense of humor.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

VISITING: **CHUCK STANDARD** had a busy week, checking in with **BILL CLEWORTH**, **GEORGE SUTER**, **HARRY TWITCHELL**, **TIM NOLAN**, **JOE COLEMAN**, and **LARRY REBAK**. **JIM FAHY** was welcomed back.

MEMBERSHIP: **HORST TEBBE** stressed the desirability of additional members and asked current members to make more of an effort to bring guests. He reported attendance of 97, plus 4 guests—Marshall Toppo (guest of **CHET RISIO**), Bob Jamieson (**JACK WEIR**), Larry Spann (**DOUG FRANCEFORT**), and Fred Goodstein (**FRANK SCARPA**). Two new members, both sponsored by **HAROLD KUPLESKY**, were welcomed into the RMA: **LAWRENCE POSNER** and **ROBERT BLOOM**.

HAPPY BIRTHDAYS: Several birthdays the week of July 19: **ANDRZEJ MAZUREK** (60), **KEITH SMITH** (78), **BOB BISHOP** (83), **TOM McEVOY** (93).

VOLUNTEER HOURS: **TONY COCCHI** reported that for the week ending July 19, 2017, 35 men completed 392 volunteer hours on behalf of outside agencies, and 27 men contributed 163 volunteer hours on behalf of RMA. The most hours, 54, were given by an anonymous volunteer. .

SCOREBOARD

GOLF: Facing brutal summer temperatures, 13 players took to the links on July 18, 2017, with two players scoring below 90—**RICH BARTHOLOMEW** (86) and **TONY COCCHI** (89). **RICH** also had the longest drive and was closest to the pin on #15. **PETER STEIN** was closest to the pin on #7.

BRIDGE: **GRANT PERKINS** reported that the July 12, 2017, bridge gathering of 8 players was led by **KURT SCHAFFIR** (3,330 points), followed by **GRANT PERKINS** (3,070 points) and **BERT KLEBANOW** (3,040 points).

HEARTS: The Hearts enthusiasts filled two tables for its July 12, 2017, competition. Table 1 was dominated by **MIKE AMBROSINO**, who won 2 games and shot the moon an unprecedented 3 times, while **RALPH VIGGIANO** (who won 1 game) and **JOHN KNIGHT** shot the moon once. **TOM HEALY** won the game played at Table 2. The group meets every Wednesday from 1:00-3:00 pm at the Civic Center in Old Greenwich. New players are welcomed. Contact Jack Sweger.

TODAY'S SPEAKER

Professor Nelson Tebbe, who teaches courses on the First Amendment and constitutional law, with a special interest in religious liberty, at Cornell Law School, addressed a large and attentive group about "The Establishment Clause of the U.S. Constitution and the 'Travel Ban'". Recruited by his father, **HORST TEBBE**, Professor Tebbe was making his third appearance at the RMA.

He noted that in previous visits, he had reviewed the U.S. Supreme Court's decisions of the previous term, but that this year the cases most interesting to him were two that would be decided in the Fall of 2017. The first issue was the travel ban that had affected travelers from several Muslim countries, blocking them from the United States until their status could be evaluated. The justices will need to decide whether the Establishment Clause of the Constitution, generally characterized as separating Church and State, applies and whether the ban shows animus toward a particular religion. The complicated nature of the issue will remain unresolved at least until the Court makes a decision.

The second case to be decided this Fall is the Masterpiece Cake Shop case, in which the right of LGBT prospective customers of a shop that made wedding cakes will be measured against the religious beliefs of the shop owners, who oppose same-sex marriages. The justices will need to evaluate the claim of freedom of religion as well as that of free speech and to decide which party has the more compelling argument.

SPECIAL EVENTS

*Open to all members, spouses, candidates, and guests. Checks should be made out to RMA and must be received within two weeks following the reservation or the reservation will be cancelled. For reservations contact trip coordinators **MIKE FERRARESE**: [203-554-0678](tel:203-554-0678) or **ABBEY SMOLER**: [203-531-0236](tel:203-531-0236). All buses depart from the St. Catherine's parking lot.*

August 31, 2017: Sound Water Cruise. Drive your own car. Meet at dock at 1:30 p.m. and depart at 2:00 p.m. Snacks and water. \$35 per person. Status: 7 spaces open.

September 21, 2017: Oklahoma! at Goodspeed Opera. Bus departs at 9:45 a.m. Lunch at Gelston House. \$120 per person. Status: 7 spaces open.

NEXT WEEK'S SPEAKER

Peter Sherr, Chair of the Greenwich Public Schools Board of Education, will speak on "Educating the Children of Greenwich—What's Next?" His themes will include the effect on students of the wide range of family income and neighborhood on their success and will offer recommendations for solutions.

STEVE ELLIOTT, Scribe

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