



CIGAR BOX BULLETIN

Retired Men's Association of Greenwich, Inc.

37 Lafayette Place, Greenwich, CT 06830

www.greenwichrma.org

Chair/Editor: **Joe Mancinelli** Graphics: **Av Rivel**

Scribes: Av Rivel, Arnold Gordon, Ed Farrell, Gerry Lessuk, George Stockbridge, Joe Mancinelli, Chet Risio, Frank Scarpa, Marshall Toppo
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“Men marry women with the hope they will never change. Women marry men with the hope they will change. Invariably they are both disappointed.”

Albert Einstein

Amidst the friendly pre-meeting social RMA buzz, President JERRY SCHWENDEMAN called the meeting to order at 10:01am.

PETER UHRY led the membership in the Pledge but not before he reminded us that the United States Pledge of Allegiance was written by Francis Bellamy, an American Christian minister in 1892.

TOM HEALY was our song leader with GEORGE STOCKBRIDGE on the piano. We sang to *It's a Grand Old Flag*, *Carolina in the Morning* and *Those Were the Days My Friend*.

Treasurer for the day was JEFF JUNKER with an assist from WAYNE DEFRIES. The Scribe was JOE MANCINELLI and the Mentor was ANDRZEJ MAZUREK.

Corresponding Secretary BOB CAREY, or as JERRY referred to him Reverend Billy Sol CAREY, provided us with a humorous and fascinating genealogy of Jesus Christ.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Ahoy mates! JOHN CRAINE reminded us of the annual RMA Raftup that will be held on Thursday, August 15th. Boaters, former boaters and non-boating members and their spouses, candidates and guests are invited, subject to our current boater's capacity limitations. The signup sheet is on the bulletin board.
2. PETER URHY informed us the Greenwich Reads Together will be focused on Ray Bradbury's Fahrenheit 451, the international acclaimed novel whose message is still relevant today.
3. CHET RISIO reflected on the member Human Interest stories that we have heard and enjoyed over the past months. CHET encouraged members to come forward and contact him in future weeks regarding your own stories of childhood, fond remembrances that we all can relate to or perhaps a well know person came in and out of your life. Contact CHET with you own unique and personal story.
4. RETURNEES: FRANK ZAVATTARO from South Carolina and ANDRZEJ MAZUREK from Peru and Colombia.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

VISITING: There was no report.

PROGRAM: Today's Speaker: PETER UHRY previewed today's speaker, Dr. GEORGE UBOGY, who will be presenting his fourth musical program. This one will be focused on the *Creative Genius of Oscar Hammerstein*.

Next Week's Speaker: HORST TEBBE informed us that next week the program will be presented by Patricia Chadwick who will discuss *From Life in a Cult to Life on Wall Street*.

MEMBERSHIP: HORST TEBBE reported that 100 members were present with no guests or inductees on this day. Birthday wishes were sung to SAL DEANGELO, 96, SAM YORK, 90, BOB MEANY, 72, JOHN HOFFMAN, 90, COOKI GIBB, 76 and TOM MORONEY, 80.

SPECIAL EVENTS: JIM FISHBEIN and MAURICE KROHN summarized upcoming Special Events, see details below.

VOLUNTEER HOURS: JOE MANCINELLI provided the statistics for the week ending July 31st: 290 outside hours by 35 men and 201 RMA hours by 30 men. The leader for the week was STEPHEN MARINO with 30 hours

FUN AND GAMES

BRIDGE: No report.

OUTDOOR TENNIS /PICKLEBALL: JOHN KNIGHT informed that five of our best players showed up this past Monday for a competitive morning with fabulous weather. TONY COCCHI announced that 10 pickleball players were present on Thursday for equally competitive games of pickleball. Tennis is from 9 to 11am every Monday at the Loughlin Avenue courts in Cos Cob and Pickleball every Thursday at 9-11am. However, for the racquetball enthusiasts, a slight variation, on Mondays, there will be tennis on one court and pickleball on two adjacent courts.

INDOOR TENNIS: All indoor tennis players should submit the annual fee of \$490 to MICHAEL AMBROSINO as requested previously. The 2019 Fall/Winter Schedule and Roster will be issued soon.

HEARTS: ANDY HOLMES provided the details. Three Tables, 12 players and eight games completed. The winners were: PETER BERG, (3), GRANT PERKINS (2), JACK WEIR (1), TOM HEALY (1), and CHARLY GRAVES (1). Moonshooters were TOM HEALY (1), PETER BERG (2), GRANT PERKINS (5). Next week's Captain will be LOU TROVATO. Play is at the Old Greenwich Civic Center on Wednesdays at 1pm.

GOLF: MIKE RYAN teed up the ball for the weekly golf activities. Twenty-four players ventured out on this hot and sultry Tuesday. Nearest to the Pin on #7 was MICHAEL ROSS, nearest to the pin on #15 was TOM HEALY, and the longest drive on #17 went to GRANVILLE BURGESS. Eleven players shot under 100. The low score of the day was RICHARD BARTHOLEMEW with 89. PAUL CAMPION will be our host for the next two Tuesdays. The RMA will be playing behind the women golfers starting in August. Also, we need a host for August 20th.

TAI CHI: WILL MORRISON reminded up that the "balancing act continues." Tai Chi meets at the Greenwich Senior Center at 3:00 on Mondays (Beginners) and 3:00 on Wednesdays (Advanced.)

TODAY'S SPEAKER

Dr. George Ubogy delighted, entertained and educated the assembled members and guests with *The Creative Genius of Oscar Hammerstein*. Dr. Ubogy provided us with insights into Hammerstein's personality, his background, his music, his lyrics and his view of life. The presentation took us on a journey beginning with Oscar Hammerstein as an assistant stage manager to perhaps the most prominent lyricist in the history of American musical culture. Along this journey, we were enlightened with tangential vignettes related to the Hammerstein's story and how it touched upon famous personalities, unique experiences and historic facts.

Furthermore, we were treated to audience participation with an assist from TAD LARRABEE (as *Curly*), BOB MORGAN (song leader) and STEPHEN MARINO (slide presentation), to show business devices, to Dr. Ubogy's melodic piano solos and to the contemporary social mindset of our nation during the development of his famous musicals, such as Oklahoma, Carousel, South Pacific, Showboat and others.

The program ended with a segue to a classical piece that conveys emotion through music from Hammerstein to Beethoven. For Broadway musical aficionados as well as casual music lovers the program was a joy, the only disappointment was Dr. Ubogy ran out of his allotted time. For those of you who missed it, be sure to see it on the RMA website.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Open to all members, spouses, candidates and guests. Checks should be made out to RMA and must be received within two weeks of the reservation or the reservation will be canceled. Buses depart from the St. Catherine Church parking lot on Riverside Avenue opposite the church. Contact persons are listed with each event.

PepsiCo Sculpture Gardens Tour, Sept. 19. RMA member ARTHUR STAMPLEMAN will lead a guided tour of the 45 works by the 20th century's leading artists. An upscale buffet lunch will follow at the Doral Arrowood Resort. The full buffet will cost \$40 or the extensive salad bar is \$25. Transportation is self-drive; arrive by 10 AM. Contact JIM FISHBEIN. Status: Currently full, if interest sign up on the Wait List with MAURICE KROHN.

Wave Hill Gardens, along the Hudson River in Riverdale, Oct. 10th from 9 to 11am; two-hour guided tour, free gift, and 10% discount on any purchase. See www.wavehill.org. Lunch with extensive, generous menu at The Lobster House on City Island, \$110pp. Bus departs St. Catherine's at 8:00am. Contact MAURICE KROHN at maurice142@optonline.net. Status: open. Reservations need to be submitted by September 18th.

NEXT WEEK'S SPEAKER

Patricia Chadwick who will discuss her personal experiences *From Life in a Cult to Life on Wall Street*

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