

CIGAR BOX BULLETIN

Retired Men's Association of Greenwich, Inc.
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These are the people who produce the Cigar Box Bulletin each week

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VOLUME 66 NUMBER 18 SEPTEMBER 5, 2018 SCRIBE: GERRY LESSUK

“ To understand the workings of American politics, you have to understand this fundamental law: Conservatives think Liberals are stupid. Liberals think Conservatives are evil.”

(Charles Krauthammer)

President **TAD LARRABEE** was delayed getting to the meeting; he had recently taken a fall and was using crutches. **JERRY SCHWENDEMAN** opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. **GRAN BURGESS** led the singing of the Star Spangled Banner, and followed with It's a Grand Night for Singing, and concluded with Everybody Loves Somebody Sometime. **BOB MORGAN** accompanied on the piano. President **TAD** was now in the meeting. **SAL DeANGELO** was handling the Treasurer's duties in place of **WAYNE DeVRIES**. **PETER UHRY** was mentor for the day.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. **RMA Picnic:** **ARNOLD GORDON** reminded everyone about the **upcoming RMA picnic on Thursday, September 13, beginning at 10:30AM**. Everyone should have received an email notice from **JACK CUFF** last week. Games as usual with prizes awarded. A catered BBQ lunch with all the trimmings will be served. New this year will be a lip sync contest. Arnold urged all to bring lots of money for tickets for the 50/25/25 drawing and the raffle of many great prizes in value up to \$350, including gift certificates from Richards Clothing, Fleisher's Meat Market, Fjord Fisheries and several popular restaurants. There will be wine galore and valuable items from Shreve, Crump and Low, and Hoagland's on Greenwich Avenue - and a beautiful seascape water color by fellow RMA member and accomplished artist **DAN GRIMSICH**. All Tickets are \$5 each, 3 for \$10 and 8 for \$25. If you can't be at the picnic, you can still purchase tickets from **DON CONWAY**. Remember that the money raised goes to a great cause: the RMA treasury.

2. **Salvation Army Food Drive:** **MIKE RYAN** reported that the Drive will be held on Thursday, September 13 at Town Hall, in the large meeting room on the main floor, from 8:30AM to 3:30PM. The focus is on children. Donations will go to Neighbor to Neighbor and the Department of Human Services. A flyer is posted on the bulletin board which lists the most needed food items.

3. **STEVE BOIES** reported that **DOUG FRANCEFORT** was in the Stamford Hospital. Last Saturday he fell on the front steps of his home, fracturing several ribs and a back bone. He has been transferred to Nathaniel Witherell for rehab. **DOUG** recently announced that he will be retiring from the Book Swap as of December 31, 2 days after he turns 90. Lorrie Stapleton, who has been volunteering at the Book Swap for the past few years, hopes to keep the Book Swap going, but will need Volunteers to do this. RMA members interested in volunteering should get in touch with **STEVE BOIES** who can explain what the job entails.

4. **Visiting:** **WAYNE WRIGHT** reported that **BILL BURKE** returned home from the hospital.

LIMERICK CONTEST

ARNOLD GORDON mc'd the Contest. The judges were **DON CONWAY, GRAN BURGESS** and **MIKE SMITH**. Ten members submitted limericks: **AV RIVEL, JIM SANTORA, PETER SCHIEFERDECKER, DICK FRANK, JIM FISHBEIN, JERRY SCHWENDEMAN, GEORGE STOCKBRIDGE, DOUG TAYLOR, CHET RISIO,** and **FRANK SCARPA**. The contestants stepped up front and read their limericks; the judges got their heads together and announced the three winners: First place went to **JERRY SCHWENDEMAN**; second place to **FRANK SCARPA**, and third place to **JIM SANTORA**. **ARNOLD** distributed the prizes. (see attached photo on bottom.)

First prize

When the Trumpster went to Helsinki,
That's where we certainly might think he,
Would discuss Russian hacking,
But alas he was lacking,
And apparently stepped on his Dinky.

Second Prize

There is a long-legged heiress from Maine

Who gave bigly to the campaign.
With her short resume
And nothing smart to say,
She's now Ambassador to Spain.

Third Prize

A man who had words with his spouse,
Went to the Griff to get out of the house.
When his balls went astray,
He shouted: "oy vey",
Returning home only to grouse!

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Programs: Today's Speaker, **Page Knox**, is a lecturer and educator at the Met and teaches Art Humanities and classes on American Art at Columbia University. She earned her PH.D in Art History from Columbia and her B.A. in Art History from Yale. **HOLLISTER STURGES** advised that Ms. Page will speak about the works and travels of Thomas Cole who is recognized as the father of American landscape painting. **JOHN CARON** said that next week's speaker will be Tom McGlyn who will speak on living and working in Saudi Arabia. Although Americans working for the Saudi Arabian Oil Company were confined to Dhahran, Tom who worked for Price Waterhouse and was responsible for tax work for 1800 lived in Khobar where he was able to get around and speak to Saudis.

Membership: **HORST TEBBE** reported that there were 88 members in attendance and two guests - Tom Mcguine, g/o **CHET RISIO and HORST TEBBE**, and Bob Meany, g/o **HORST TEBBE**. Happy Birthday was extended to **RON CANTWELL (75), SAM MARASSO (79), FRED GOODSTEIN (71), and JERRY SCHWENDEMAN (79)**.

There were two inductees: **WILL MORRISON** was introduced by **HORST TOBBE** and **PETER UHRY**, and **JOHN KAVANAGH** by **ARNOLD GORDON** and **JACK WEIR**. Both inductees were approved by acclamation. **WILL** is a 60 year resident of Greenwich and a former employee of IBM. **JOHN** has been a

resident of Greenwich since the age of one, and continues to be active by instructing seniors in Thai Chi which he teaches at the Greenwich Senior Center.

Volunteer Hours: **JOHN CRAINE** submitted the following: 201 outside hours by 25 members; 53 inside hours by 24 members. Recording the most hours was **TAD LARRABEE** with 37.

FUN AND GAMES

Due to time pressures the following information was submitted to the Scribe:

Bridge by **JOHN HOFFMAN**: ten players participated. Highest scores were **KURT SCHAFFIR** with 3090; **RALPH VIGGIANO** with 2600, and **RON FRIEDMAN** with 2250.

Hearts by **PETER BERG**: There were 12 players at three tables. Table One played two games. Winners were **JOHN STANKUNAS** and **PETER BERG**. Table Two played two games. Winners were **ANDY HOLMES** and **DON CONWAY**. Table Three played two games and **MICHAEL AMBROSINO** won both. Shooting the moon once were **JOHN STANKUNAS, ANDY HOLMES, DON CONWAY,** and **MICHAEL AMBROSINO**.

Golf by **MIKE RYAN**: Twenty Two players braved the oppressive heat. Low scorers were **RICHARD BARTHOLOMEW** and **MIKE SMITH** with 93. Closest to the pin on the 7th hole was **RICHARD BARTHOLOMEW**, closest on 15 was **TONY NESSI** and the longest drive in 17 was made by **JIM BOARDMAN**. Next week's host is **GRAN BURGESS**. The Golf Lunch is scheduled for Oct 10th. Sign up with **MIKE RYAN**.

Indoor Tennis by **JOE MANCINELLI**: The season will kick off on September 7th at the Old Greenwich Academy. Others who want to sign up or serve as subs see **JOE** or **MICHAEL AMBROSINO**.

TODAY'S SPEAKER

Page Knox is an Art Historian and discussed the life and work of Thomas Cole, who is recognized as the father of American landscape painting. Cole was born in northern England in 1801. At an early age he worked in textiles as a weaver and in a printing house, but those jobs were eliminated by the industrial revolution. When Cole was 17 his father relocated the family to America. In Philadelphia, Cole began studying landscape painting. The aspiring artist found his way to New York and established himself with original landscapes of the Catskills, Adirondacks, and the Hudson River Valley. Cole also returned to England to study the works of British landscape artists, and traveled to Italy to paint the ancient monuments and picturesque countryside. Cole's success is reflected in the American taste for landscape painting.

SPECIAL EVENTS

*Open to all members, spouses, candidates and guests. For reservations call Trip Coordinators **ABBEY SMOLER** at 203-531-0236 (abbeysmoler@gmail.com) or **MIKE FERRARESE** at 203-554-0678 (myagentmike@yahoo.com). Checks should be made out to the RMA, and must be received within two weeks following the making of the reservation(s) or they will be cancelled. All buses depart from the St. Catherine church parking lot.*

Goodspeed Opera House Musical, The Drowsy Chaperone, October 25, 2018, lunch at the Gelston House, cost \$125, bus departs at 9:15AM, status:10 places open.

NEXT WEEKS SPEAKER

Tom McGlyn, who worked in Saudi Arabia without the usual movement restraints imposed on Americans and other nationals employed by the Saudi Arabian Oil Company, will talk about a Greenwich resident's perspective of living and working in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.