



CIGAR BOX BULLETIN



Retired Men's Association of Greenwich, Inc.

60 Years of Fellowship and Community Service

Visit us on the web at www.greenwichrma.org

Here are the volunteers who publish this Bulletin each week for your enjoyment. **Editor:** Chet Risio, Chair. **Scribes:** Gran Burgess, Av Rivel, Kurt Schaffir, Jim Butler, Arnold Gordon, Ed Farrell, George Stockbridge, Emeritus. **Archivist:** Harold Frost. **Format and Layout:** Gene Schwartz, Paul Levine, Jack Cuff. **Reproduction/Distribution:** Walker Collins, Chet Risio.

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October 5, 2016

I remain just one thing and one thing only and that is a clown. It places me on a far higher plane than any politician".

Charlie Chaplin – The Observer 1960

President PETER UHRY called us to order at 10:02 AM and told us that we would be pleased to meet our host, the new Minister of the First Presbyterian Church, Rev. Sean Miller, prior to our special speaker presentation. PAUL BRADY then led us in The Pledge of Allegiance. DON CONWAY, accompanied by GEORGE STOCKBRIDGE, then stepped up to conduct us in the songs, "The Star Spangled Banner," "The Wiffenpoof Song," and "You Are My Sunshine." ARNOLD GORDON followed by remembering the legend of Sister Mary, the bed pan filled with gas and the reaction of the Baptist observers who considered conversion to the Catholic faith.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

ARNOLD GORDON announced that RMA members are invited to an Octoberfest reception on Thursday, October 13th, 6-8 PM at Shreve, Crump & Low, 125 Greenwich Avenue. Free beer and pretzels and a premiere German watch exhibit are available, RSVP 203 622 6205 or rsvp@shrevecrumpandlow.com by October 10th. ARNOLD also reminded us of the new RMA "Clerihew" contest on October 19th. see

<http://www.gigglepoetry.com/poetryclassdetail.aspx?LessonPlanID=19https>> and <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Clerihew> for a description of a Clerihew. To sign up or submit an entry, contact ARNOLD GORDON by October 15th at 203 340 9336 or ajgordo@verizon.net.

DON CONWAY then recapped the schedule for the **RMA Annual Dinner** at the Tamarack Country Club on November 9th from 10:30 AM to 2:30 PM at a cost of \$60.00 for members and \$30.00 for widows.

STEVE BOIES stepped up to announce the start of the 2016-2017 Concert Players forty fifth season, October 9th, 4:00PM and 7:30PM at the Round Hill Community Church. Adult tickets are \$30.00, information available by calling 203 637 4725.

President UHRY returned and advised us that HAROLD KUPLESKY will man the RMA table at Round Hill Community Church on Saturday, October 9th, 9:00AM to 1:00PM, handing out information; helping out would generate new member interest!

The Garden Education Center will host author Kerry Mendez on Thursday, October 13th at 10 AM discussing ways to liven up your garden. That same day, **the League of Women Voters** will sponsor a debate at 7 to 9PM at the Town Hall. There will be two debates between Camillo/ Bhargava and Franz/Blankley. On Saturday, October 15th for \$35.00 a ticket, Greenwich Green and Clean will sponsor a town wide cleanup, a fine idea. Go to www.greenwichgreenandclean.org for details.

On October 26th at 7PM, **Greenwich Reads Together** sponsors a presentation by **Emily St. John Mandel, author of "Station Eleven,"** at 7PM at the Cole Auditorium.

GEORGE UBOGY came forward to advise us all that flu shots would be available at the Eastern Greenwich Civic Center on Thursday, October 20th from 3:30 to 6:30 PM and on Thursday, October 27 at the Bendheim Western Civic Center from 3:30 to 5:30 PM. Verification can be obtained by calling 203 622-3774. Immunizations can also be obtained through CVS and Walgreens drug stores which offer a choice between a 3 strain or 4 strain immunization; one should check with one's doctor as to the preferable type. It takes up to two weeks for the immunizations to become effective.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PROGRAM: ED PARKER presented the new Minister of the First Presbyterian Church who welcomed us for our present and future meetings.

He was followed by **PRESIDENT** UHRY'S fine introduction of **Randall Atcheson**, the admired and well known concert pianist.

Next week's speaker will be **Lauren Elliot**, Greenwich Tax Assessor, who will address "Hard Points About Assessment Taxes in Greenwich".

MEMBERSHIP: HORST TEBBE reported that there were 124 attendees including one candidate; Tony Cocchi, one guest: Joel Blumberg, guest of ARNOLD GORDON and two **inductees:** JOE DOWLING, sponsored by WAYNE WRIGHT and BILL HOWLAND, and STEPHEN ELLIOT, sponsored by GERRY FOX and AV RIVEL. Both were elected unanimously. **Happy Birthday** was then wished to: GARY MILLER, 88, GERALD L. MAYFIELD, 81, PETER McSPADDEN, 86 and ALBERT SLOAN, 90.

RETURNEES: PETER STERN had returned from Israel.

VOLUNTEERS: MIKE AMBROSINO advised us that 357 hours were reported by 37 men for outside agencies and 129 hours by 26 men for RMA activities. **BOB LUCE** had the most individual hours, 41.

SPORTS & GAMES:

BRIDGE: KURT SCHAFFIR told us that 14 players had attended the September 28th meeting. KURT was first with 5350, GRANT PERKINS was second with 3490 and WALKER COLLINS placed third with 3480.

GOLF: MIKE RYAN stated that 13 players had taken part; the lowest score was a sparkling 83 by PETER RYAN with three players scoring in the 90s. PETER, host over the next 2 weeks, scored closest to the pin on #17; ROS CURTIS was closest on #15. He had a long bunker shot in the process. RALPH VIGGIANO powered the longest drive on hole #17. Finally, the **Annual RMA Golf Luncheon** is in 3 weeks on October 6th at The Field Club.

TODAY'S SPEAKER:

PETER UHRY gave a warm welcome to Randall Atcheson, the well-known concert pianist whose experience at Julliard School gave him the unusual parallel of equal mastery on the organ and the piano. Randy rewarded us with four works by Chopin, including his bright and powerful performance of the Polonaise in A flat.

The second part of his presentation, including his appropriate comments, brought us all back to fond remembrance of Cole Porter songs and the themes of our national services. His concert at Carnegie Hall on November 16th at 7:00PM will offer a fine opportunity to appreciate his excellent art once again.

SPECIAL EVENTS:

Open to all members, spouses, candidates and guests. Checks are to be made out to RMA. Trip coordinators: MIKE FERRARESE 203 554 0678 & ABBY SMOLER 203 531 0236.

Goodspeed Opera House, October 27, 2016 "Chasing Rainbows". The story of Judy Garland. Departure by bus from St. Catherine's at 10:00 AM. Lunch at Gelston House Restaurant. Cost; \$115.00 per person. Waiting Listed.

NEXT WEEK'S SPEAKER

Next week's speaker will be **Lauren Elliot**, Greenwich Tax Assessor, who will address "Hard Points About Assessment Taxes in Greenwich".

Scribe of the week: JIM BUTLER