



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, **Archivist:** Harold Frost. **Format:** Gene Schwartz, Jack Cuff, and Andrzej Mazurek. **Graphics:** Av Rivel, **Print/Distribution:** Chet Risio.

Volume 65, No. 27

November 01, 2017

"Politicians and diapers have one thing in common. They should both be changed regularly, and for the same reason"Unknown

President DON CONWAY summoned all to the meeting at 10:01am. GRAN BURGESS led with the Pledge and, as is the custom on the first meeting of the month, conducted the members in singing The Star-Spangled Banner followed by My Wild Irish Rose and My Gal Sal. GEORGE STOCKBRIDGE smoothly segued from the pre-meeting music to accompanying the members' singing.

Corresponding Secretary GERRY SCHWENDEMANN told a tale of deceased man, upon viewing the pleasures of Heaven, cursed his wife for keeping him alive for the last ten years.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Prez DON suggested viewing the town election debates on WGCH. The schedule was posted on the bulletin board. He also said that those who wish to work the polls should see Fred DeCarlo at 9:00am, Saturday, Nov 4, at Town Hall. DON announced that on Nov. 12th, Veteran's Day weekend, due to the kneeling posture rather than standing during the National Anthem by NFL players, a national boycott of all Pro Football games will be held.
2. Last week a member, by mistake, took a blue windbreaker home. Please return the windbreaker. Said member will find his windbreaker in the sanctuary coat room.
3. STEVE BOIES urged all classical music lovers to attend the concert of The Chamber Players of the Greenwich Symphony on Sunday, Nov. 5 at 4:00pm at Round Hill Community Church. The concert will be performed again Monday, Nov. 6 at 7:30pm

at the Bruce Museum. \$30.00 for adults and \$5 for students. Both concerts offer a wine and cheese reception. The program, "Russian Idyll", will feature music by Russian composers.

4. RALPH VIGGIANO summoned all veterans to march in the Veterans Day Parade on Greenwich Avenue on Saturday, Nov. 11 at 10:45am. Early arrivals should meet at Pasta Vera (top of Greenwich Ave) for free coffee and Danish. Lunch and entertainment following the parade at Red Man's meeting hall, 17 East Elm St.

5. KLAUS JANDER reminded all that the Woman's Club of Greenwich will hold its main fundraiser, the Holiday Boutique on Friday, Nov 10 and Saturday, Nov 1. Mrs. Klaus Jander is again requesting RMA members to aid in parking as they have done in the past. Please call her at 203 629-8198 or 203 661-3232.

6. PETER UHRY gave notice of Randall Atcheson's free piano concert on Sunday, Nov 19 at 4:00pm at First Presbyterian church. www.fpc.org.

7. TAD LARRABEE reminded all that there will NOT BE A MEETING next Wednesday, Nov. 8. That is the day of the Annual Dinner at the Tamarack Country Club. Doors open at 10:30am, lunch at 12:00 noon and ends at 2:30pm. Dress code: coat and tie preferred. For information, call TAD 203 637-4023 or tadlarra@optonline.net.

8. Returnees: SAM MARASSO from Moscow, Russia, BRUNO SCHRAGE from Milan, Italy, BOB CAREY from White Sulphur Springs, WV and GRAN BURGESS from Beaufort, SC.

COMMITTEES

VISITING: President DON asked for a volunteer to report on hospitalized or ailing members.

PROGRAM: AL KNIGHT said Richard Halkyard will present us with "Training Workers for 21st Century Rail Transportation".

Next Week's Speaker: STEVE MEYERS revealed the speaker for Nov 15 will be Daniel Ksepka addressing "March of the Penguins; New discoveries from the Southern Hemisphere.

The Speaker Program for December 27, declared by ARNOLD GORDON, will be presentations by RMA members. Titled "Tales Worth Telling; Members' Life Experiences", will feature personal life experiences that influenced their lives.

These can be stories of overcoming challenges, facing a crisis or dealing with adversity. Serious or light hearted, show and tell, members should submit a brief statement on their proposed talk of about 10-15 minutes max. Three judges, HOLLISTER STURGES, PETER UHRY and ARNOLD GORDON will select three or four entries. Proposals must be submitted by email no later than December 6th.

MEMBERSHIP: HORST TEBBE announced today's guests; Bob Frishman, g/o MIKE WARNER, Mike McDonagh, g/o DON CONWAY and Howard Richman, g/o PETER UHRY. The birthday boys were FRANK SCARPA, 76 and LLOYD HULL, 95.

Inductee: PETER COLEMEN recommended and JIM BOARDMAN seconded Gerry Friedman for membership. GERRY, a graduate of NYU and President of his company was approved for membership.

VOLUNTEERS: JOE MANCINELLI said, for the week of Nov 1, 2017, there were 253 outside hours by 34 members and 163 inside hours by 29 members. Top RMA Member hours, 24 by SERGE GABRIEL.

SPECIAL EVENTS: ABBEY SMOLER gave details on upcoming events (see below). And made a plea for members to step up and help plan possible events like visiting the Consumer Reports labs or the Edison House and Museum.

THE SCOREBOARD

BRIDGE: FRANK LEE, unable to find a prize he intended to offer, announced that WAYNE DEVRIES scored 4750, GRANT PERKINS 3570 and FRANK LEE 3420.

GOLF MIKE RYAN reported 21 members played on Oct 21, a windy, leafy day. Apparently, no one was closest to the pin on 7 but RUSS HARDEN managed that on 15 and 17. The golfers will attempt one last round on Tues. Nov 7. The Golf Luncheon at the Field Club was attended by 28 men.

INDOOR TENNIS: PETER TUNLEY reported, for Oct 27, that ANDRZEJ MAZUREK and PETER ORBANOWSKI won on Court 1. On Court 2 it was MICHAEL AMBROSINO and RALPH VIGGIANO. Captain for next week is PETER TULEY.

HEARTS: MIKE AMBROSINO should be restrained somehow because MIKE won games 1 and 3 on table one and shot the moon THREE TIMES. JACK SWEGER won game 2 and also STM. On table two ANDY HOLMES took game 1 and TAD LARRABEE (who had not played in 35 years?) won game 2.

TODAY'S SPEAKER

AL KNIGHT introduced Richard Halkyard, a professor at New Haven's Gateway Community College. He is the Program Coordinator for the Railroad Engineering Technology curriculum. His program, titled "Training Workers for the 21st Century Rail Transportation", cited the many improved developments in engineering and worker training. He said, "It's not your father's railroad anymore." Gone is the hiring practice of "friends or relatives". Now the emphasis is on education and training. Very soon we will see solar powered trains, driverless trains and Automatic Fare Collection, seamless travel where a passenger can use any form of interconnected travel without ever showing a ticket. Mag Lev trains are now operating in Washington, DC. and in the planning, is the Hyperlink Vacuum TubeTrain envisioned by Elon Musk.

Soon high-speed trains will not have to slow down for banked turns. New tilt technology will allow trains to continue at high speed on curves while passenger cars will remain upright. To prevent the horrific accidents due to sleep deprived trainmen, Positive Train Control Systems that will stop or slow down an out of control train will soon be installed. Professor Halkyard's students, with their wide range of specialized skills, will be ready to embrace all these advancements in railroading.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Open to all members, guests, candidates and spouses. Checks made out to the RMA within two weeks of the reservation or it will be canceled. Call MIKE FERRARESE 203 554-0678 or ABBEY SMOLER 203 531-0236.

NY Philharmonic Rehearsal, Jan. 11, 2018. Lunch at the Atlantic Grill. \$110pp
Bus departs St. Catherines's at 7:45am. Status: Wait listed.

Elmsford Dinner Theater, "A Chorus Line". February, 2018. Lunch at the theater.
\$95pp. Bus departs St. Catherine's at 10.00am. Status: 10 places open.

Bruce Museum, Impressionist paintings and climate change science. Mar. 22, 2018.
Lunch at the Milbrook Club. \$60pp. Transportation is personal.
Status: 30 places open.

NEXT WEEK'S SPEAKER

Daniel Ksepka addressing "March of the Penguins; New discoveries from the Southern Hemisphere.

Scribe: CHET RISIO