



CIGAR BOX BULLETIN
Retired Men's Association of Greenwich, Inc.
37 Lafayette Place, Greenwich, CT 06830

www.greenwichrma.org

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"God grant me the senility to forget the people I never liked anyway; the good fortune to run into the ones I do; and the eyesight to tell the difference!"

Anonymous

President JERRY SCHWENDEMAN opened the meeting at 10:00 AM and called on STEVE MARINO to lead us in the pledge. JACK SWEGER accompanied by GEORGE STOCKBRIDGE on the piano, then led members in singing *The Star-Spangled Banner*, *Always*, and *Five Foot Two*.

GEOFFREY BURGE, in his inaugural stint as corresponding secretary, offered some Aussie humor, e.g. Aussies don't have sex, they mate; an unbent boomerang is called a stick; a guy who promised to salute his deceased mate's grave with kidney filtrated beer.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. ARNOLD GORDON announced that there will be a memorial service for LEN SAARI on Saturday, November 16, at 11am at the First Congregational Church of Old Greenwich. ARNOLD then rendered a memorial tribute to member ERNEST BANKER, who died on October 13, 2019, at the age of 95.
2. GERRY BOYLE asked for volunteers to help with parking at a Greenwich Women's Club Holiday Boutique event at 89 Maple Ave. on Friday, November 8 (10am to 5pm) and Saturday, November 9 (10am to 4pm).
3. JIM DEAN announced that an RMA Paddle Tennis group is being formed. Six members have already signed-up, but 2-4 additional players are needed. See JIM for details.
4. JOHN FEBLES made his annual plea for support of the Salvation Army's annual Kettle Drive. Captains are needed to help JOHN set up stations at the ACME Store in Riverside and on Greenwich Avenue on weekends from Thanksgiving weekend through the weekend before Christmas from 10am to 6pm. JOHN will be soliciting help from members for 1-2-hour stints as collectors on those weekends. To volunteer, please call or write JOHN at 203-550-5049 or jfebles13@gmail.com.

5. GEORGE STOCKBRIDGE noted that the next Shakespeare meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 20, at 1pm at the home of Keith Smith, 37 Jones Park Drive (adjacent to St. Paul Church's parking). Featured play will be Two Gentlemen of Verona.

6. MICHAEL AMBROSINO said the RMA entrants in the Veterans Day parade will gather at the Pasta Vera restaurant on Greenwich Ave. at 10am. MICHAEL also noted he recently learned of a non-surgical prostate procedure called UROLIFT that he thought may be of interest to members. Further information can be found on Google.

7. CHET RISIO introduced GERRY BOYLE, who regaled members with a harrowing and true tale of being aboard an American Airlines DC10, when an engine cowling broke loose and opened a hole in the fuselage letting in freezing air and forcing the pilot to bring the plane into a deep dive to reach a level where people could breathe without oxygen masks. The plane returned safely to JFK.

VISITING

MICHAEL AMBROSINO revealed that JOHN CARON suffered a fall, and, after a hospital stay, is now at Nathaniel Witherell. JOHN will welcome visitors – but, in his case, visitors are welcome only at 12 noon and 4pm.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Program: ARNOLD GORDON noted that today's program will feature Curtis Fisher, who will discuss offshore wind energy in Connecticut and beyond.

BOB ROBINS announced that the speaker on November 20 will be Henry Dorochochovich, who will address Climate Change and America's National Security.

NOTE: There will be no meeting or speaker on November 13, because of the RMA annual dinner.

Membership: HORST TEBBE reported 103 members present at today's meeting. Today's birthday boys are: DON CONWAY, 82, BILL WIGGIN, 92, and BRUCE PANTANO, 80.

The RMA welcomed new member, LEN CARUSI, who was sponsored by JACK CUFF and CARL WHITE.

Volunteers: GEOFFREY BURGE announced that for the week ending November 6, 2019, 40 members reported 309 volunteer hours for outside agencies and 27 members reported 138 volunteer hours for the RMA. PETER STERN reported the most hours (41).

FUN AND GAMES

Bridge: RON FRIEDMAN announced that the winners last week were JOHN FEBLES (4420), ED MASTOLONI (2620), and RON FRIEDMAN (2420).

Tennis: ANDY HOLMES announced that November 1 winners were round 1/ court 1 JOE MANCINELLI and DON BREISMEISTER; round 1/ court 2 GEOFFREY BURGE and ANDRE MAZUREK; ROUND 2/COURT 1 DON BREISMEISTER and ANDRE MAZUREK, round 2/court 2 RON FRIEDMAN and PETER STREICH. Next week's captain is BILL FAKUNDINY.

Hearts: GRANT PERKINS reported 4 players played 3 games last week. Winners were: JOHN STANKUNAS, GRANT PERKINS, and DON CONWAY. Moon Shooters were, LOU TROVATO, JOHN STANKUNAS, and GRANT PERKINS (3). Next week's captain is PETER BERG.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Special events are 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(s) or the reservation(s) will be cancelled. Busses depart from the St. Catherine Church parking lot on Riverside Avenue opposite the Church. Contact persons are listed with each event.

No events are currently scheduled.

The Special Events Committee is planning a January visit to the Westchester Dinner Theater to see Five Guys Named Moe - a musical. Before making a commitment, the committee needs to determine members' level of interest. If you are interested in seeing this show, please speak to MAURICE KROHN at our next meeting, or email him at maurice142@optonline.net.

TODAY'S SPEAKER

Curtis Fisher, Northeast Region Executive Director of the National Wildlife Federation, spoke of how climate change is impacting our regional environment, and especially the use of offshore wind turbines. Mr. Fisher noted that addressing climate change is not a political issue. He said the Northeast is warming twice as fast as the rest of our country. As a result, wildlife is dying-off at an alarming rate. For instance, he noted that there are only about 400 right whales remaining, in part because its food supply is relocating to cooler waters. He concluded that we have only eleven years to address climate change before it is too late to do so. Mr. Fisher observed that the New England states along with New York and New Jersey are funding technology projects at an increasing rate. They have learned that using wind turbines can reduce fossil fuel dependency, and have found large off-shore turbines are more efficient than smaller on-shore turbines, and, that they are more cost effective relative to other forms of energy production. He noted that, while Europe and China have led the way in addressing climate change through the application of technology, the New England states are increasing investment in such solutions, especially in wind turbine technology.

NEXT WEEK'S SPEAKER

On November 30, the RMA will welcome

Henry Dorochovich

Subject: Climate Change and America's National Security

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RMA 2019/2020 Calendar

Weekly Repetitive Activities

Date	Time	Activity	Location
Mondays	3:00 to 4:00	Tai Chi Beginner	Greenwich Sr. Center
Wednesdays	10:00am to 11:00am	RMA Weekly Meeting	First Presbyterian Church, One West Putnam Ave., Greenwich CT
Wednesdays	1:00 to 3:00pm	Hearts	Greenwich Civic Ctr. 90 Harding Road, Old Greenwich
Wednesdays	3:00 to 4:00	Tai Chi Advanced	Greenwich Sr. Center
Wednesdays	1:00 to 3:00pm	Bridge	Greenwich YMCA
Thursdays	9:00 AM	RMA Walking	Various TBD
Thursday Nov. 14	2:30pm	Melody Men	Edgehill, Stamford
Friday Nov. 15	2:00pm	Melody Men	Nathaniel Witherell
Fridays	1:30pm to 3:00pm	Indoor Tennis	Old Greenwich Tennis Academy
RMA Special Events			
November 13, 2019	12:00 Noon	ANNUAL RMA BANQUET	Tamarack Country Club
January, 2020	TBD	Five Guys Named Moe	Westchester Broadway Dinner Theater
February, 2020	TBD	South Pacific	GoodSpeed Opera House