



# CIGAR BOX BULLETIN

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

[www.greenwichrma.org](http://www.greenwichrma.org)

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"Gratitude is not only the greatest of virtues, but the parent of all others."  
Marcus Tullius Cicero

**Volume 66 Number 28 November 21, 2018**  
**Scribe: ED FARRELL**

President **TAD LARRABEE** opened the meeting at 10:00 AM and called on **RALPH VIGGIANO** to lead us in the pledge.

With **BOB MORGAN** at the piano, **JACK SWEGER** led us in singing *My Country Tis of Thee, Over the River and Through the Woods, and Blue Skies.*

**BOB LUCE** told the story of a woman shoplifter whose husband suggested an amusing sentence for her crime. **STEVE MYERS** followed with a story of a foul-mouthed parrot who was shocked into rehabilitation after having visited with a turkey in the freezer.

**TAD** then announced that **GERRY GIBIAN** was the sole returnee this week from Chile and Argentina.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. **BOB LUCE** announced that the Greenwich Choral Society will hold a concert at Christ Church on Saturday, December 1st at 4:00 PM, and on Sunday,

December 2nd at 2:30 PM and 5:00 PM. Tickets are available online at [www.GreenwichChoralSociety.org](http://www.GreenwichChoralSociety.org) or call 203-622-5136.

2. **BOB FRISHMAN** noted that he would be selling boxes of grapefruit and oranges for \$24.00 per box after the meeting. Proceeds will go to the Lions Club, which provides many services to our community, including offering free eye exams to over 3,000 Greenwich students annually.

3. **MICHAEL AMBROSINO** thanked RMA members for the food donations made last week to Covenant House.

4. President **TAD LARRABEE** was joined by past presidents **PETER UHRY**, **RALPH VIGGIANO** and **DON CONWAY** in presenting this year's RMA Outstanding Achievement Award to **TED SPOOL** for his many years of service to the RMA.



5. **PETER UHRY** then cited **RALPH VIGGIANO**, who is retiring this year from the RMA Board of Directors, for his many contributions to the success of the RMA.

6. **BOB CAREY** asked for members to consider volunteering for Greenwich Call-a-Ride, which is in need of new drivers.

7. **KLAUS JANDER** presented a thank you letter from The Woman's Club of Greenwich for the help rendered by RMA members at their Holiday Boutique.

8. VISITING: **WAYNE WRIGHT** happily reported that **DOUG FRANCEFORT** has returned to the RMA after recovering from a recent fall. **WAYNE** also noted that **BILL SALTSMAN** is at home and not hospitalized, as previously reported. **WAYNE**, on behalf of members, wished **JOE MANCINELLI** a speedy recovery from heart surgery scheduled for November 27th.

9. **TAD LARRABEE** noted the passing of Thelma Marino, wife of **STEVE MARINO**. A funeral mass for Mrs. Marino will be celebrated at St. Agnes church, 247 Stanwich Rd. in Greenwich at 10:00 AM. on Saturday, November 24th.

#### COMMITTEES.

**MEMBERSHIP:** **HORST TEBBE** reported 85 members, 1 candidate, and 2 guests present at today's meeting. Guests are: Charlie Graves, guest of **MIKE SMITH**, and Gerry Fornell, guest of **DICK WOLFF**. **HORST** also recognized eleven birthday boys: **STEVE MYERS** 82, **PETER ARTURI** 92, **CHARLEY LAND** 80, **FRANK LEE** 88, **DERYCK DUNCALF** 92, **COREY DUNHAM** 89, **ARNOLD STANCELL** 82, **JIM STEEN** 70, **DAVE NONLE** 84, **ROGER PISANI** 83, **GERRY FOX** 84. **HORST** introduced **GERRY GIBIAN** and **PETER TUNLEY**, who presented **ROGER CLARKE**, who was unanimously approved for RMA membership.

**VOLUNTEER HOURS:** **GEOFFREY BURGE** reported that 32 men donated 502 hours to outside agencies, and 17 men reported 130 volunteer hours for the past two weeks. **MIKE AMBROSINO** reported the most hours for the week (40).

**PROGRAM:** **ARNOLD GORDON** announced that today's speaker will be Ken Borsuk, Greenwich Time reporter, who will offer *Tales of a Greenwich Reporter on the Front Lines*. **ARNOLD** noted that next week's speaker will be Joel Seligman, professional photographer, who will speak about *Mining, Refining and Restoring Photographic Images in the Digital Age*.

#### FUN AND GAMES

**BRIDGE:** **KURT SCHAFFIR** announced that the winners on November 7th were: **RON FRIEDMAN**, **JOHN HOFFMAN** and **KURT SCHAFFIR**.  
Indoor Tennis.

**TENNIS:** **ANDY HOLMES** reported winners on court #1 were **ANDRZEJ MAZUREK** and **TOM HEALY**. Winners on court #2 were **RON FRIEDMAN** and **DON BREISMEISTER**. **MICHAEL AMBROSINO** announced that the schedule for the second half of the season will be sent out no later than December 14th. He urged players to sign-up as soon as possible if interested.

**HEARTS:** **CHARLIE GRAVES** reported there were 8 players at last week's game. Winners were: table #1 (2 games) **JOHN STANKUNAS** and **JOHN KAVANAGH**, table #2 (2 games) **LOU TROVATO** and **GRANT PERKINS**. Moon

shooters were: **LOU TROVATO, GRANT PERKINS, JOHN KAVANAGH, CHARLIE GRAVES, JOHN KNIGHT** and, **JOHN STANKUNAS**.

**WALKERS: JIM FISHBEIN** announced that the group had a brisk walk last week, and that walks would continue if weather permits.

### SPECIAL EVENTS

Special Events are open to all members, guests, candidates and spouses. Checks should be made out to RMA and must be received within two weeks or the reservation will be cancelled. **Contact MIKE FERRARESE** ([myagentmike@yahoo.com](mailto:myagentmike@yahoo.com) or 203-554-0678) or **ABBEY SMOLER** ([abbeysmoler@gmail.com](mailto:abbeysmoler@gmail.com) or 203-531-0235).

**ABBEY** announced a trip to **Westchester Dinner Theater on Feb 14, 2019, to see *Ain't Misbehavin'***. Cost is \$95 and includes lunch at the theater.

**GERRY LESSUK** announced that he will lead a trip to the NY Philharmonic for a rehearsal of Janacek's *The Cunning Little Vixen Suite*, Prokofiev's *Piano Concerto No. 3*, and Rimsky-Korsakov's *Scheherazade* on Jan 10, 2019. Tickets are \$115.00 with lunch at the Atlantic Grill. Bus departs from St. Catherine's at 9:00am. Call **GERRY** AT 203-698-9451. Three places remain open.

### TODAY'S SPEAKER

Ken Borsuk, Greenwich Time reporter, shared with members a brief history of Greenwich's local daily newspaper since its inception as the *Observer* in 1877 through multiple name changes until it became the current *Greenwich Time* in 1937. Ken noted he came to Greenwich in 2000, when he accepted his first reporting job with the *Greenwich Post*, a job he held until the *Post* folded in 2015, at which time he joined *Greenwich Time*. Ken noted a reporter's job requires 24/7 availability to cover events and meetings occurring at virtually any time. He indicated that this commitment is partially responsible for high turnover of reporters and editors. Ken described his daily routine as beginning with a morning meeting where reporters suggest two stories for the day, one front page and one inside. Frequently these stories focus on the local impact of national news. An afternoon meeting focuses on the final content of tomorrow's paper to ensure a 5:00 PM deadline (the earliest Hearst deadline) is met. Events occurring overnight are immediately reported on the paper's web site and fleshed-out in the next newsstand edition. Overall, Ken gave members an insightful look into the hectic life of a news reporter.

### NEXT WEEK'S SPEAKER

Next week the RMA will welcome **Joel Seligman**, professional photographer, who will speak about *Mining, Refining and Restoring Photographic Images in the Digital Age*.

Visit us at [www.greenwichrma.org](http://www.greenwichrma.org)

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