

# 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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**SCRIBE: JAMES DEAN**

*"Friendship is like money, easier made than kept"* – Samuel Butler

President **JOE MANCINELLI** brought the meeting to order at 9:45 am, with **TOM HEALY** leading the pledge of allegiance. We then joined in singing led by **GRAN BURGESS** with **JIM SANTORA** on piano. President **JOE** had **TONY COCCHI**, who was working the projector, play a clip of Kate Smith from the 1943 movie *This Is the Army*, singing "God Bless America," complete with the rarely heard introductory verse ("While the storm clouds gather, far across the sea/Let us swear allegiance, to a land that's free..."). The song was written by Irving Berlin in 1918, but not published at that time.

**JOE** reminded us that 2022/2023 dues are due, \$100 payable to the RMA. Please deliver to Treasurer **JEFF JUNKER**. Thanks for your attention to this matter.

**TOM HEALY**, our erstwhile jokester, gave us two jokes - one funny, two funnier.

**ARNOLD GORDON** reported the passing of **BOB UNDERWOOD**, at the age of 95. **BOB** joined the RMA in 1996. He would appreciate a volunteer to deliver **BOB's** memorial. Contact **ARNOLD** at [ajgordo@verizon.net](mailto:ajgordo@verizon.net). **ROBERT WHITBY**, a member since 2015, passed away at age 81. His obituary is found here:

[OBITUARY FOR ROBERT WHITBY](#)

For all grandparents, the Connecticut summer museum program runs from Friday, July 1 through September 6<sup>th</sup>. All children 18 and under and one accompanying adult will receive free admission to over 90 museums.

Finally, with a slide presentation prepared by **LEN CARUSI**, **ARNOLD** showed examples of some very clever and funny business signs from the UK.



**MICHAEL AMBROSINO** gave a book review of *Perfect* by Lew Paper. It's October 8<sup>th</sup> 1956, game five of the World Series between the Brooklyn Dodgers and the New York Yankees. This was a game for the ages. Yankees pitcher Don Larsen against Sal Maglie for Brooklyn. There were 19 total players of which eight would go on to become hall of famers. Sal Maglie would pitch a five-hitter that day, with Mantle getting both RBI'S and Larsen pitching a perfect game. Sixty-six years later we are still remembering the fall classic of 1956.

**HOLLISTER STURGES** announced next week's speaker will be Joseph Palosi discussing the history of Lincoln Center.

**PETER STERN** reported attendance as 75 in-person plus 10 on Zoom, and two guests. The guests were Bob Giaquinto, guest of **ARTHUR STAMPLEMAN** and **JIM FISHBEIN**, and Chick Donohue, guest of **STEPHEN MARINO**. Both guests were welcomed by the members. **PETER** reported the past week's birthdays as **TONY FITZPATRICK**, 73, **ALEX GOSPODINOF**, 95, **HOLLISTER STURGES**, 83, **JEROME COLEMAN**, 74, **DAN FREDLAND**, 88, **JOE HAVRANEK**, 79, **HOWARD RICHMAN**, 69, and **DAVE SCHERAGA**, 90. Returnees

were **CARL WHITE** from Martha's Vineyard, **PAT MCCARTHY** from a European river cruise, and **LEE LUNDY** from Annapolis MD.

RMA volunteer hours were reported as outside, 119 hours by 13 members, and inside, 50 hours by 10 members. The top volunteer this week was **JEFF JUNKER**.

**HORST TEBBE** has kindly provided the following information on what is needed to keep our video services running. Please see **HORST** if you can help this team.

“While the Audio/Video Production Team is delighted that **MARK GEIMER** is trying his hand at editing our videos and running the Zoom sessions for members and the public, and that **STEVE MYERS** is helping him get started, we are still precariously thinly staffed. The following skills are still very much needed:



1. Help/backup for **ED PARKER** on the public address system, and on fitting our guest speakers with microphones of their choice. We thank **STEVE MARINO** for jumping in during **ED's** recent absences. While the console looks forbidding, we have saved presets for our needs. Not so hard.
2. Help/backup for **LEN CARUSI** and **TONY COCCHI** on the in-room projector. Some PC fluency means you are qualified!
3. Cameramen are still needed. **PETER DODGE** is being helped by **BARRY RICHELSON** and **JOHN FEBLES**, but they both spend part of the year away. If you are here year-round, and have taken still pictures or family videos, you qualify!
4. Another video editor is needed. If you have used Windows' Movies or iMovie, or have some familiarity with Adobe's Premiere (any flavor) or Final Cut, you can quickly learn the very simple edits we do.
5. Another Zoom host to make sure our virtual members and audiences continue to feel welcomed.

Generally, we have been very fortunate to have several people that could do more than one job. Due to what is looking like a generational change, that is not true right now. Come join us!”

## FUN AND GAMES

**Walkers:** **TAD LARRABEE** reported a three mile walk in the woods in Pomerance Park north of Orchard Street, Cos Cob, on June 30<sup>th</sup>. The area was the former Tuchman property that had been the estate of Ernest Thompson Seton, then called "Wydygoul." Not far from the entrance is an area known as "Medicine Rock" that contains a ceremonial stone commemorating the Woodcraft Indians, a boys' organization established by Seton in 1902. From this movement the Boy Scouts of America emerged in 1910.

**Hearts:** **JOHN STANKUNAS** reported eight players, six games. Winners were **SWEGER** (2), **BERG** (2), **HEALY** (1), **STANKUNAS** (1). Moon Shots, **HEALY** (4), **SHULLMAN** (2), **PERKINS** (2), **SWEGER** (1), **CONWAY** (1), **STANKUNAS** (1).

**Bridge** report by **RON MURRAY**: First place **FRANK LEE**, 2,760 points, **RON MURRAY**, 2,720 points, **JOE WATTS**, 2,270 points.

**Pickleball:** **PATRICK MCCARTHY** reported that a picture-perfect day led to spirited games. We play 10 am to 12 pm on Mondays and Thursdays at Christiano Field. If you would like to play, contact Pat at [pmaccarthy415@gmail.com](mailto:pmaccarthy415@gmail.com).

**Golf**, by **MIKE RYAN**. Fifteen players, winners as follows. On hole 7, **JIM SANTORA**, hole 8, **MICHAEL ROSS**, hole 15, **PAT YUEN**. Notable feats included **JOE MANCINELLI** (birdie), and **BOB SHULLMAN** (birdie).

Special Event: Tour of Yonkers Brewery and Beer Garden on July 14<sup>th</sup>. Address is 92 Main Street, Yonkers. For info email: [Maurice142@optonline.net](mailto:Maurice142@optonline.net).

## TODAY'S SPEAKER

**BOB MEANEY** introduced the RMA speaker for July 6, 2022, Yascha Mounk, Ph.D., who appeared via Zoom. Dr. Mounk discussed his new book *The Great Experiment: Why Diverse Democracies Fall Apart and How They Can Endure*. Dr. Mounk explained that modern democracies have increasing numbers of groups identifying on race, political beliefs, and other factors. The resulting chaos is a challenge to the survival of fairness and order in society. Mounk believes that solutions to this challenge are at hand and are playing out, though too slowly. There are policies and behaviors that can move us more quickly toward

a more enduring model of democracy that, instead of stumbling on diversity, embraces it. Mounk argues that the transition is the greatest experiment of our time.

Speaking on German television in 2018, the liberal scientist remarked that Germany was "embarking on a historically unique experiment - that of turning a monoethnic and monocultural democracy into a multi-ethnic one."

His talk stressed the importance of protecting the members of tight knit religious communities from coercion within their group, and advocated cultivating a progressive civic patriotism in order to undercut ethnic nationalism. He noted that the marginalization of minorities can have the result that people "feel that their membership in the only club that they have ever known will forever remain conditional."

Dr. Mounk discussed how democracy is a fragile pact. As elections approach politicians blame and name-call. Sometimes they warn: the soul of the nation is at stake. Passions run hot. But after the votes are counted, the fragile pact makes strict demands. The losers must concede. In exchange the winners promise grace and restraint.

Yet Mounk counts himself as "unfashionably optimistic." Democracies, especially western democracies, are doing a better job these days at integrating immigrants than you might think. A lively Q&A followed the talk.

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW FULL PRESENTATION BY YASCHA MOUNK](#)

### **IMPORTANT REMINDERS**

**TO CBB CONTRIBUTORS:** Scribe for the next meeting, on July 13, will be →**ARNOLD GORDON**←. Please send a copy of any remarks you want included in the CBB to [ajgordo@verizon.net](mailto:ajgordo@verizon.net).

**ALL MEMBERS:** Do not forget to report all your inside and outside volunteer hours to **JOHN FEBLES** at [jfebles13@gmail.com](mailto:jfebles13@gmail.com).

**ALL MEMBERS** are reminded that in addition to streaming on the Internet, RMA speakers are normally shown on the local public access TV channels, Verizon FIOS channel 24 and Optimum (Cablevision) channel 79.

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### RMA 2022 CALENDAR

Weekly Repetitive Activities*			
Day	Time	Activity	Contact
Mondays	8:45 am	QiGong and Tai Chi Workout	Will Morrison – <a href="mailto:wdmorrison@gmail.com">wdmorrison@gmail.com</a>
Mondays	10:00 am	Pickleball at Christiano Park	Pat MacCarthy – <a href="mailto:pmacCarthy415@gmail.com">pmacCarthy415@gmail.com</a> Mark Geimer – <a href="mailto:mark.geimer@gmail.com">mark.geimer@gmail.com</a>
Tuesdays	Various tee times	RMA Golf, the Griff Golf Course, Greenwich	Mike Ryan – <a href="mailto:ryantomac@netscape.net">ryantomac@netscape.net</a>
Tuesdays	10:00 to 11:00 am	Platform (paddle) tennis at Loughlin Field, Cos Cob	John Dean - <a href="mailto:Jhdeanco@gmail.com">Jhdeanco@gmail.com</a>
Wednesdays	9:45 to 10:30 am	RMA Weekly Meeting	Horst Tebbe – <a href="mailto:onehorst@optimum.net">onehorst@optimum.net</a> or Len Carusi at <a href="mailto:lencarusi@gmail.com">lencarusi@gmail.com</a>
Wednesdays	1:00 pm	Hearts	Bob Shullman – <a href="mailto:bob.shullman@gmail.com">bob.shullman@gmail.com</a>
Wednesdays	12:30 pm	Bridge	Andre Mazurek - <a href="mailto:Mazurek.a.j@gmail.com">Mazurek.a.j@gmail.com</a>
Thursdays	9:00 am	RMA Walking	Tad Larrabee - <a href="mailto:tadlarra@optonline.net">tadlarra@optonline.net</a>
Thursdays	10:00 am	Pickleball at Christiano Park	Pat MacCarthy – <a href="mailto:pmacCarthy415@gmail.com">pmacCarthy415@gmail.com</a> Mark Geimer – <a href="mailto:mark.geimer@gmail.com">mark.geimer@gmail.com</a>
Friday	11:00	Outdoor Tennis, Bruce Park	John Knight - <a href="mailto:johnknight7@gmail.com">johnknight7@gmail.com</a>

Friday	1:30-3:00 pm	Indoor Tennis (resumes in fall)	Andy Holmes - <a href="mailto:Andyholmes56@gmail.com">Andyholmes56@gmail.com</a>
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\*Day & time of some events may vary; check with contact