

CIGAR BOX BULLETIN

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



www.greenwichrma.org

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"The source of the greatest song is sympathy" - Halldór Laxness

President **JOE MANCINELLI** rang the opening bell at 9:45, introducing **BOB MORGAN** to lead the Pledge. **TOM HEALY** then brought on The Melody Men to render a euphonic "God Bless America," which was followed by the audience singing "That's Amore" and "Zip A Dee Doo Dah" (with **BOB MORGAN** at the piano). **TOM** noted that The Melody Men have been invited to sing at the 9/11 Memorial Event at Cos Cob Park.

In a brief announcement, President **MANCINELLI** reminded us that the August 31 meeting will be on Zoom only. He noted with chagrin that the first RMA Beauty Contest had only two entrant photos submitted, and therefore voting has been placed on hold until more are received. Send those photos of your handsome legs to **JOE!** (jlmanc@optonline.net).

KLAUS JANDER delivered a well-composed eulogy for **DONALD HELLER**, who passed away on July 28: **DONALD** was born in Brooklyn in 1929, and had lived in Greenwich with his wife Ginger for 50 years, He had earned a BA degree and a masters in public administration from Syracuse University. He served in the U.S. Army in the 1950s, and then worked in various sales and marketing positions for Chesebrough Ponds, ending up as president of the Unilever Health and Beauty Division. After retirement, he became an entrepreneur in medical supply and real estate. In Greenwich, **DONALD** served on the Planning and Zoning Commission for over 12 years, with seven as Chairman. He also

served on the board of the World Affairs Forum and was a member of the Horseneck and Harpoon Clubs. He played an active role in the building of the new Temple Sholom.

Corresponding Secretary **ARNOLD GORDON** noted that, sadly, we have lost yet another of our faithful members. **GERALD ISAACSON** died recently at the age of 95. He had joined the RMA in 2005. A memorial service will be held on August 20th at 11 am at First Congregational Church. **MIKE SMITH** will deliver a eulogy at our August 24th meeting. **GERALD's** obituary can be found here:

https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/greenwichtime/name/gerald-isaacson-obituary?pid=202484730&utm_source=MarketingCloud&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=ObitShare_PPNBlock_062222&utm_content=ViewObituary&sfmc_id=221006990&env=04c019b4bafc8f814b02125ee5974edce5a2a1d4

On a less somber note, **ARNOLD** offered an assortment of calendars (in the **CHUCK STANDARD** tradition) and alerted us to another Bob Button Concert Thursday at the Greenwich Historical Society. Also, the St. Roch Feast and Fair runs Wednesday through Saturday in Byram. **ARNOLD** then said it was time for some inanities (look it up).

"I haven't gotten anything done today. I've been in the Produce Department trying to open this stupid plastic bag."

"Apparently RSVPing to a wedding invitation 'Maybe next time' isn't the correct response."

"I know a guy who's addicted to drinking brake fluid, but he says he can stop any time."

"I'm reading a book about anti-gravity. I just can't put it down."

"A dentist and a manicurist married. They fought tooth and nail."

And he couldn't resist quoting verbatim an answer by a 16-year-old in a standard test given in Scotland: "Louis Pasteur discovered a cure for rabbis. Charles Darwin was a naturalist who wrote the Organ of the Species. Madman Curie discovered radio. And Karl Marx became one of the brothers."

He then introduced **CARL WHITE**, official jokester for the day. **CARL** gave us a concise history of Rodney Dangerfield, embellished with some of his classic lines.

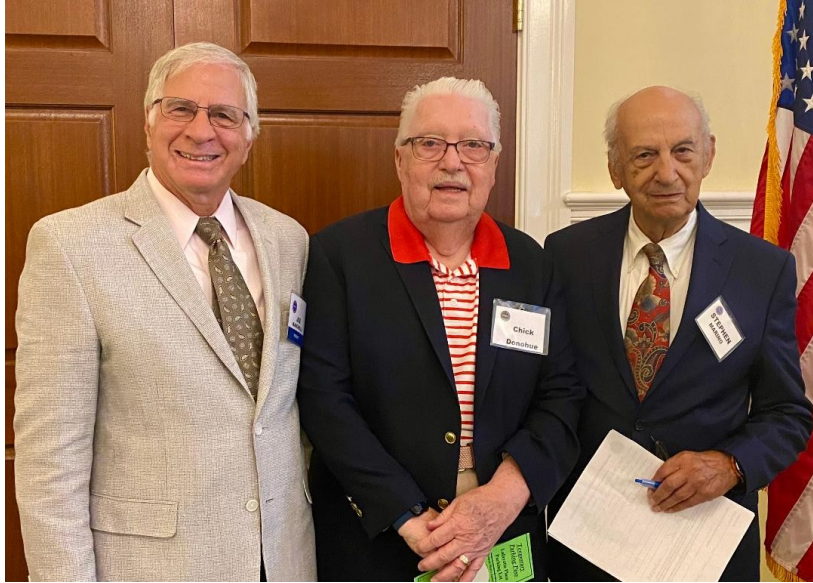
SPEAKERS

HORST TEBBE previewed today's talk which is by his son, Nelson, on "Originalism in the Supreme Court." Nelson is professor of constitutional law at Cornell Law School. Professor Tebbe's previous presentations to the RMA have been well-received, and today's talk should be especially timely. **HOLLISTER STURGIS** then previewed next week's speaker, Mike Perry, president and CEO of the Army Heritage Center Foundation, the Army's premiere research facility dedicated to the preservation of the Army's unofficial history. His topic, on August 17, will be "Challenges and Opportunities in the Preservation of Veterans' Stories."

Membership chair **PETER STERN** noted the following birthdays: **JOE MANCINELLI** is now 72, **ALAN GUNZBURG** is 63, and **JOE WATTS** turns 76. **BOB MORGAN** on the piano spurred the membership into a hearty birthday song. Attendance for the meeting was 89 members attending in person, plus seven on Zoom. Among the latter were **ED FARRELL, JIM SANTORA, PETE ARTURI, DOUG TAYLOR** and **GERRY MAYFIELD**. Guests were Harry Fisher, guest of **DAVID MICHONSKI** and **JOHN TONER**, Bart Goodwin and Mickey Robinson, guests of **GRAN BURGESS**, and John Reese, the guest of **ANDY HOLMES**. **PETER STERN** welcomed **MARSHALL TOPPO** back after a long absence from personal attendance. Another returnee was **SKIP AUCH**, from Michigan.

INDUCTION

John "Chick" Donohue was introduced by **STEVE MARINO**. Chick was educated in NYC Catholic schools and earned an MPA at Harvard's School of Government. In 1961, he enlisted in the USMC, and served for six years. He was later employed in the U.S. Merchant Marine, a posting that led to wide foreign travel, including Vietnam, where he became a "sandhog", or tunnel builder. He eventually became the legislative and political director of the Sandhogs union, where he served for more than three decades. Chick is married to Theresa O'Neil and resides in Old Greenwich, as well as in Ireland and Florida. Members voted unanimously to welcome Chick into the RMA.



Joe Mancinelli, Chick Donohue, Steve Marino

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Volunteer Hours: **RUSS HARDEN** noted 171 outside hours by 18 members, and 141 inside hours by 16 members. **DAVID MICHONSKI** led the pack with 48 hours.

Picnic: **JIM DEAN**, filling in for **WILL MORRISON**, reminded us that the picnic will be held at Tod's Point on September 14th, and we should sign up. Suggestions for comestibles will be entertained. More volunteers are needed, specifically watermelon slicer (1 or 2), food distribution supervisor, and two each for set up, cleanup and organization. **WILL** submitted the following appeal to members.

“Believe it or not, the much-anticipated RMA Picnic is but a month away. Please reserve free tickets for you and up to two guests. Your quick action will help ensure that the seats and delicious food and beverages that you have come to expect will be in plentiful supply. Thank you for your support, as always. Contact any one of us if you would like to help make the event a success.”

Activity Organizers

ANDY HOLMES - Games

ARNOLD GORDON - Raffle

GRANVILLE BURGESS - Entertainment

JIM DEAN - Food and Beverage

JOHN KAVANAGH - Furnishings
PETER STERN - Welcoming
TAD LARRABEE - Recycling
WILL MORRISON – Lead

Raft Up: **JOHN CRAINE** noted that five boats are available for Thursday, August 25 (the group could use two more boats.) Rendezvous location is the anchorage at Great Captain's Island. When the celebration is over, some boaters plan a cruise to Captain Harbor and its surroundings. Fully vaccinated members, spouses and guests are invited, subject to boaters' capacity. BYO edibles and beverages. **JOHN** may be reached at 203-698 0018, and **BARRY RICHELSON** at 203-637-5454.

ROMEO luncheon: **DON ROTZIEN** reported that the next luncheon will take place on Thursday, August 18 at 1 pm behind the main concession stand at Greenwich Point. Beach cards are required, but arrangements will be made for the entrance gate to allow non-resident members into the park for this event.

Belmont trip: **TOM HEALY** noted that this year's excursion will not take place on account of construction at the park, which will re-open after next year's Belmont Stakes in June.

FUN AND GAMES

Pickleball: **PAT MacCARTHY** noted that Monday's excessive heat had forced cancellation that day. Pickleball is played from 10 am to noon on Mondays and Thursdays at Christiano Field. Members may join the e-mail list by contacting **PAT** at pmacacrthy415@gmail.com.

Bridge: **RON MURRAY** noted that **JOHN FEBLES** was 1st place winner with 2520 points. **ALEX KOSSEIM** and **CHARLEY LORD** tied for 2nd with 1790 points each. Eight players participated on August 3.

Golf: **Captain TONY FITZPATRICK** reported on some exciting performances, despite the heat rising to 94 degrees. **JAY SCHONDORF** was closest to the pin on both holes 7 and 15. **GRAN BURGESS** came within an inch of a hole-in-one on Hole 5. **TONY FITZPATRICK** notched the longest drive on Hole 5. There were 10 scores below 100: **MARK FOX** (98), **DON HAMILTON** (97), **MICHAEL AMBROSINO** and **JAY SCHONDORF** (96), **JOE MANCINELLI** (94), **RUSS HARDEN**, **GRAN BURGESS** and **TONY FITZPATRICK** (90), and

PETER TUNLEY and **JIM DEAN** (85). There were seven birdies: **GRAN BURGESS** and **JAY SCHONDORF** (two each), and one each by **PETER TUNLEY**, **JOE MANCINELLI** and **JIM DEAN**. Next week's captain will be **GRAN BURGESS**.

Hearts: MICHAEL AMBROSINO reported on two tables and eight players. On Table #1, **MICHAEL AMBROSINO** won three games and **JOHN STANKUNAS** won one. They each also had a moon shot. On Table #2, **JACK SWEGER** won two games, while **GRANT PERKINS** and **BOB SHULLMAN** each won one. **JACK SWEGER** also had three moon shots.

Outdoor Tennis: JOHN KNIGHT gamely carried the standard for this group. They only had three players last Friday, and had to recruit an eighth-grader to join them. This coming Friday will conclude this year's season. An informal poll of today's attendees was lukewarm about continuing. We will hope for a more enthusiastic response next year.

TODAY'S SPEAKER



HORST TEBBE introduced Dr. Nelson Tebbe, Professor of Constitutional Law at Cornell Law School, who addressed the RMA on the topic of "Originalism on the Supreme Court." Dr. Tebbe, the son of **HORST TEBBE**, is a Greenwich native and a graduate of Greenwich High School. He has lectured to the RMA a number of times, with acclaim. Dr. Tebbe works on issues relating to freedom of speech, freedom of religion, and general constitutional law, and is the author of the book

Religious Freedom in an Egalitarian Age. He holds degrees from Brown University, Yale Law School, and the University of Chicago Divinity School. His most recent articles have appeared in the *Harvard Law Review*, the *Columbia Law Review*, and the *Michigan Law Review*, and he has published in popular outlets including *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, and *The Atlantic*.

"Originalism," he explained, is a method of constitutional interpretation that fixes the Constitution in time. It was first promoted in the 1980s by then Attorney General Meese, and later by Antonin Scalia and Clarence Thomas as a "corrective to judicial activism." Yet its usage has forced difficult contextual interpretations of such phrases as "a right to bear

arms" and "equal protection under the law," and the fact that the words "woman' and "women" are nowhere to be found in the document.

Alternatives to Originalism may be found in the concept of "a living Constitution" or in plural approaches combining arguments from texts, history and precedent. Yet another concept is the one of a "common ground Constitution."

Professor Tebbe then discussed the pros and cons of Originalism. The "pros" would include the concept of "legitimacy," or of fixing the rule of law so that it is "predictable," and a promotion of "judicial restraint"--eliminating personal bias. An important "con" is the "Dead Hand Problem," the idea that it is not "democratic" to impose the will of people who lived 100 years ago. Anti-originalists argue that the original text did not include women, non-whites, or non-land owners. Also, they argue that the text was designed to be open-ended. For example, the Court (in Heller) interpreted the Second Amendment as applying to individuals, not "militias" literally. This sort of interpretation has led to arguments about "historical ambiguity." The "deeply rooted" concept used by Justice Alito in Dobbs is questionably in accord with Originalism.

As illustrated by the thoughtful and intense Q and A session that followed, arguments on this topic will continue. All jurists and lawyers would hope to prevent "political" interpretations of the Constitution.

Those interested in viewing the full presentation are urged to go to the RMA website and click on the video at <https://vimeo.com/user9053619/videos>.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

TO CBB CONTRIBUTORS: Scribe for the next meeting, on August 17, will be →**JOE ANGLAND**←. Please send a copy of any remarks you want included in the CBB to jangland@optonline.net.

ALL MEMBERS: The CBB team works every week to write and publish an informative and concise bulletin for our members' enjoyment. We can truly use new members to join the Scribe Tribe. Please contact **TIM BROOKS** at tbroo@aol.com if you can support this effort.

ALL MEMBERS: Do not forget to report all your inside and outside volunteer hours to **JOHN FEBLES** at 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 – wdmorrison@gmail.com
Mondays	10:00 am	Pickleball at Christiano Park	Pat MacCarthy – pmacCarthy415@gmail.com Mark Geimer – mark.geimer@gmail.com
Tuesdays	Various tee times	RMA Golf, the Griff Golf Course, Greenwich	Mike Ryan – ryantomac@netscape.net
Tuesdays	10:00 to 11:00 am	Platform (paddle) tennis at Loughlin Field, Cos Cob	John Dean - Jhdeanco@gmail.com
Wednesdays	9:45 to 10:30 am	RMA Weekly Meeting	Horst Tebbe – onehorst@optimum.net or Len Carusi at lencarusi@gmail.com
Wednesdays	1:00 pm	Hearts	Bob Shullman – bob.shullman@gmail.com
Wednesdays	12:30 pm	Bridge	Andre Mazurek - Mazurek.a.j@gmail.com
Thursdays	9:00 am	RMA Walking	Tad Larrabee - tadlarra@optonline.net
Thursdays	10:00 am	Pickleball at Christiano Park	Pat MacCarthy – pmacCarthy415@gmail.com Mark Geimer – mark.geimer@gmail.com

Friday	11:00	Outdoor Tennis, Bruce Park	John Knight - johnknight7@gmail.com
Friday	1:30-3:00 pm	Indoor Tennis (resumes in fall)	Andy Holmes - Andyholmes56@gmail.com

*Day & time of some events may vary; check with contact