

# 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: AV RIVEL**

*"His mother should have thrown him away and kept the stork." - Mae West*

**JACK WEIR**, practicing for his anticipated role as president, deftly opened the meeting at 9:45. **ANDY HOLMES** did a good job leading the pledge. **ANDY** was followed by the musical magicians **GRANVILLE BURGESS** and **JIM SANTORA** who led the assembled songsters in "America", "By the Sea" and "Old Cape Cod." Do I sense a theme here?

## **PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATIONS**

President-in-training **JACK**:

\*\*Reminded all that the meeting of August 31 would be Zoom-only.

\*\*Gave a heads' up on the annual dinner (which is really lunch) scheduled for November 9 at the Tamarack Country Club.

\*\*Announced that October 13 would be the 68<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the RMA.

**JACK** has had discussions with First Selectman Fred Camillo to get the Town to recognize the RMA with an official proclamation on that date. Stay tuned.

## **MEMORIAL**

**JACK** then called upon **AL KNIGHT** to deliver a memorial for his friend, recently deceased member **ALLAN PINKERTON "COOKIE" GIBB**, who died just short of his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday on

July 22, 2022. "**COOKIE**" grew up in New Jersey and graduated from both Harvard College and the Harvard Business School. After a successful career as an investment banker on Wall Street, "**COOKIE**" started his own business in Greenwich. He is survived by his wife of 55 years, three children and three grandchildren. **AL** shared some memories and other personal information about "**COOKIE**."

### **CORRESPONDING SECRETARY**

Next in the batting order was Corresponding Secretary **ARNOLD GORDON** who mentioned that progress is being made in the Eastern Greenwich Civic Center project. Abatement work is nearly complete and the Town is now finalizing the demolition permit application process; demolition will begin in early to mid-September. Construction of the new \$21 million center is expected to take approximately 20 months. It will be known as the Cohen Eastern Greenwich Civic Center, in recognition of a \$5 million donation from the Steven and Alexandra Cohen Foundation.

He also called attention to special programs available for seniors throughout the State. According to the 2022 annual census data, there are about 649,000 Connecticut residents aged 65 or older, representing over 18% of the state's population. There are state programs for people in this age group that provide cash, energy, and legal assistance, health care, housing, long-term care, nutrition, property tax relief, and transportation. The report at the following link describes programs that serve a large proportion of older adult clients even if the programs are not aimed solely at that group. If not relevant for you personally, it is worth passing on to others:

### [CT PROGRAMS FOR OLDER ADULTS](#)

**ARNOLD** also put in a plug for the prize award event at the September 14<sup>th</sup> picnic. There will be great raffle prizes from places such as Hoagland's, Richards, Shreve Crump & Low and others. In addition, there will be special prizes of services to be donated by RMA members for cruises and lessons in tennis, golf, pickleball and Tai Chi. This year, holders of winning tickets will be able to select the prize of their choice. And do not forget the ever-popular 50/25/25 drawing for the big bucks!

As usual, he tossed a few bon mots prior to introducing **TOM HEALY**, official jokester for the day.

Husband to wife: "For the past 30 years, all you've done is criticize and correct me." Her response: "31 years."

"What goes clop, clop, clop, bang, bang, clop, clop, clop? An Amish drive-by shooting."

**TOM HEALY**, admitting that **ARNOLD** was a tough act to follow, then told two knee-slappers, one featuring two different kinds of dummies and one about "permissible adultery." **TOM's** stories drew laughs rather than groans.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Speakers Program.** **HOLLISTER STURGES** gave the heads up on today's speaker, Mike Perry, who will speak on "Challenges and Opportunities in the Preservation of Veterans' Stories." Mike Perry is the President and CEO of the Army Heritage Center Foundation in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. The Foundation is the non-profit "friend group" for the U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center (USAHEC), a component of the U.S. Army War College. USAHEC is the U.S. Army's premiere research facility dedicated to the preservation of the Army's unofficial history.



Zuckerberg

**SKIP AUCH** teased our appetites with information on next week's speaker, Gregory Zuckerman, whose topic is "The Inside Story of the Life-Or-Death Race for a Covid-19 Vaccine." Gregory Zuckerman is a 26-year special writer at *The Wall Street Journal* and has been a three-time winner of the Gerald Loeb Award, the highest honor in business journalism. Greg appears regularly on CNBC, Fox Business, Yahoo Finance, National Public Radio, ABC and Bloomberg Television.

**Membership:** **PETER STERN** gave his usual yeoman's report on the state of the membership. Attendance: 79 in-house, 10 on Zoom, total 89 plus five guests.

Birthdays were **GRANT PERKINS**, 79, **TOM WEST**, 82, **ART DELMHORST**, 84, **BRUNO SCHRAGE**, 84, **BART BARTHOLOMEW**, 85, **ED BERMAN**, 88, **RON MURRAY**, 88, **ED BLOOM**, 92, **TOM MCGUIRE**, 95. Happy candles, guys!!

Guests were John Reese, guest of **ANDY HOLMES** and **PETER ORBANOWSKI**, Donn Reinelt, guest of **BILL FEATHERSTON** and **BOB BISHOP**, Ken Schoen, guest of **FRANK SCARPA**, Gordon Jones, guest of **JOHN AWDZIEWICZ**, and Tim Alexander, guest of **DON ROTZIEN**. A special in-person welcome after a long absence was extended to **GERRY MAYFIELD** and **JOE FAHYS** (actually last week), and also to **SAL DEANGELO** for his first time at 99 years young. Welcomed on Zoom were the local regulars, **PETE ARTURI** and Maestro **BOB MORGAN**. Representing the Sunshine State was **RICK HOLZ**.

Induction: **DAVID MICHONSKI** and **JOHN TONER** sponsored **HARRY FISHER** for membership, he was unanimously accepted by the membership. **HARRY** is a lifelong resident of Greenwich and graduated from Greenwich Country Day and Cornell. He worked in financial services for most of his career managing investment portfolios. Now he is the co-owner of InterTech Media, LLC, a Stamford-based firm that designs, builds and powers websites, mobile apps and other digital tools. He is active in Christ Church and has served or is serving on the RTM and BET for years.



John Toner, Harry Fisher, David Michonski. Photo by Andy Holmes

**Volunteer Hours:** **RUSS HARDEN** reported for the week ending August 3. Outside hours were 118 by 66 men, inside hours, 66 by 15 men. The member with the highest reported hours is **JEFF JUNKER** with 26 hours. **JEFF** does two to three shifts per week for Call-a-Ride and also brings fresh vegetables from North Greenwich Congregational to Neighbor to Neighbor

**Special Events:** There was no report.

**Visiting:** **MICHAEL AMBROSINO** brought news of three members. **GEORGE CATLETT** is recovering from a series of strokes at Greenwich Hospital, and would welcome phone calls at 203-253-9706. **PETER TUNLEY** had knee replacement yesterday, all went well, and he is expected to return home today. **GENE SCHWARTZ** now lives at "the residence on Summer Street" in Stamford, an assisted living facility. He would welcome phone calls at 203-918-3984.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Commodore **JOHN CRAINE** sailed up with information on the annual **raft-up**, and signaled us all to **note the change in date!** "Ahoy mates! The annual RMA raft-up will be held starting noon, Thursday, August 25, on an anticipated beautiful day. Again, this year our traditional event will include both rag haulers (sail) and stink potters (power). Our rendezvous location is the picturesque anchorage off Great Captain's Island. Plan to bring delectable edibles, lots of frosty beverages and enjoy friendly scuttlebutt with new and old friends. When the celebration is over, some of us plan a relaxing cruise and sightseeing of Captain's Harbor and its beautiful surroundings, including Island Beach and Wee Captain Island. Fully vaccinated boaters, former boaters and non-boating members, spouses and guests are invited, subject to our current boater's capacity limitations. The raft-up should conclude about 2:30 pm. A signup sheet is on the bulletin board. We look forward to seeing you at this most relaxing and enjoyable festivity." **JOHN CRAINE**, 203-698-0118. **BARRY RICHELSON**, 203-637-5454.

**DON ROTZIEN** reported that the next **ROMEO** lunch will take place on Thursday, August 18, behind the main concession stand at Greenwich Point Park. The time is 1:00 pm. Bring your own lunch and meet with old friends and make some new ones. Beach cards are required, but if you tell the people at the booth that you are attending the RMA event they will wave you through. If you're reading this in the CBB, it has already happened and a bunch of folks had a really good time.

**WILL MORRISON**, chief honcho of this year's picnic, gave a detailed update on the coming fun event. This year's picnic will be Wednesday, September 14, 10:30-3:00 at the Clam Bake area at Greenwich Point. Admission is free for you and a guest. Over a hundred members and their guests have responded so far.

There will be a rich variety of activities from games in the field, raffles and prize drawings, jokes and singing, and of course, catching up with friends. The picnic lunch will feature a healthy assortment of vegetarian and non-vegetarian fare, salads, and deserts. The flow of events will look something like this.

Field Games	10:30
Raffle	11:30
Lunch	12:15
Entertainment	1:15
Games and Lottery Prizes	2:00-3:00

Please RSVP, even if you will not be attending. If plans change, just let us know.

[CLICK HERE TO RSVP FOR PICNIC](#)



Good times at the 2021 Picnic



2021: Mikey and the Juniors sing "At the Hop"

## THE SPORTS PAGE

**Hearts:** **MICHAEL AMBROSINO** dealt the results. Table #1 winners were **DON CONWAY** (2) and **TOM HEALY** (1). Moon shot by **TOM HEALY** (1). Table #2 winners were **GRANT PERKINS** (2) and **MICHAEL AMBROSINO** (2). Each winner shot the moon once.

**Pickleball:** **MARK GEIMER** reminded all that play is every Monday and Thursday 10 am till noon at Christiano Field. He commented that to get into an activity less strenuous than

tennis and better exercise than bridge contact **PAT MCARTHY**,  
[Pmaccarthy415@gmail.com](mailto:Pmaccarthy415@gmail.com).

**Bridge:** **RON MURRAY** shuffled to the podium to report the scores. He also reminded all that bridge was played in an air-conditioned room in the library. Top scorers this week were **TONY COCCHI**, 2740, **ED MASTOLONI**, 1990, and **JOHN FEBLES**, 1900.

**Walkers:** **TAD LARRABEE** recalled that a small group met at Cranberry Lake Preserve, one of our favorite walking areas due to its diversity and beauty. The Preserve is just to the east of Kensico dam and its large reservoir. There is a large stone quarry in the middle of the Preserve which was the source for the huge amount of stone required to build the dam. The weather was a bit tenuous, but the light rain stopped before we got there and the woods remained dry. And we finally got a break from the recent stifling heat. All in all, an enjoyable walk!

**Tai Chi:** **WILL MORRISON** reported that the ever-popular Tai Chi will be held in Old Greenwich 9:30 Monday morning. It's the place to be to develop your balance, flexibility, and resilient strength. Have some fun. See you there. Contact Will at [wdmorrison@gmail.com](mailto:wdmorrison@gmail.com).

**Golf:** It was **GRAN BURGESS's** turn to present the golf report. Closest to the pin at #5 was **MICHAEL ROSS**, closest at #7 was **JOHN CRAINE**, closest at #15 was **TOM HEALY**. Longest drive at #8 was **MICHAEL AMBROSINO**. There were lotsa scores under 100: **CHARLIE ADAMS**, 86, **DAVE WEISBROD**, 90, **DON HAMILTON**, 95, **TOM HEALY**, 93, **MIKE SMITH**, 94, **JIM BOARDMAN**, 94, **TONY COCCHI**, 93. Next week's captain will be **GRAN BURGESS**.

## HUMAN INTEREST

**HORST TEBBE** reported that while he was visiting family in Colorado he visited the Wild Animal Sanctuary and Refuge, just south of Denver in Kennesberg, CO. The refuge and sanctuary is comprised of 794 acres of open land, fenced in. There is another sanctuary in Texas. They house wild animals that have been confiscated by law enforcement and others that have been abandoned. There are many animal species, lions, tigers, bears, leopards, wolves, lynx and bobcats, each of which has its own turf. There are 20-foot-high walkways for people to observe the animals in their habitats safely for both the people and the

animals. **HORST** presented a couple of short PR Videos provided by the Sanctuary. To learn more visit <https://www.wildanimalsanctuary.org/>.

### TODAY'S SPEAKER



**HOLLISTER STURGES** introduced our speaker, Mike Perry, whose talk was titled “Challenges and Opportunities in the Preservation of Veterans’ Stories.” Perry is the President and CEO of the Army Heritage Center Foundation in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. The Foundation is the non-profit “friend group” for the U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center (USAHEC), a component of the U.S. Army War College. USAHEC is the U.S.

Army’s premiere research facility dedicated to the preservation of the Army’s unofficial history.

The preservation of our Veterans’ memories of service remains an important role for our libraries, historical societies, and archival facilities. Yet, today’s growing digital environment, while increasing the volume of materials being recorded, presents significant challenges for those who wish to see these materials saved for future generations. Mike Perry presented what has changed over the past several decades that has increased the challenges faced for preservationist and the new opportunities the growing digital environment provides.

But first, his story. The son of a military family, he served in WWII and Korea, was commandant of the first mixed-gender training facility in the US Army, and taught at West Point and the US Army War College.

Why is it important to save the history of the men and women who fought in the military? It is important to inform vets, their families and the general population of the stories of the *people* who fought. Vets often do not share their experiences with family and friends. Before the 1990's all official records were on paper. Personal records such as letters, diaries and accounts were all on paper as well. This includes photos and films and some audio records. Paper records, if properly stored will last longer than the people who generated them.



Post 1990s, the digital age, there are more records but they are in multiple formats on phones, thumb drives, computers and in the cloud. Some of the technology used to record these records is already obsolete and archiving them presents a problem. There are also multiple organizations collecting data. Museums of all sorts have been established, such as, local, military, and colleges and universities. Perry then gave the RMA a virtual tour of the Heritage Center in Carlisle PA. A lively RMA Q&A followed.

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW FULL PRESENTATION](#)

### **IMPORTANT REMINDERS**

**TO CBB CONTRIBUTORS:** Scribe for the next meeting, on August 24, will be →**JOE ANGLAND**←. Please send a copy of any remarks you want included in the CBB to [jangland@optonline.net](mailto: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 always use new members to join the Scribe Tribe. Please contact **TIM BROOKS** at [tbroo@aol.com](mailto: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](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.

Retired Men's Association of Greenwich, Inc. · 37 Lafayette Place · Greenwich, CT 06830 · USA. Visit our website at <https://greenwichrma.org>

## RMA 2022 CALENDAR

<b>Weekly Repetitive Activities*</b>			
<b>Day</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Contact</b>
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>

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