

# 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: DAVID MICHONSKI

*"Some men see things as they are and ask, 'Why?' Others see things that never were and ask, 'Why Not?'" - Aeschylus*

President **JOE MANCINELLI** called the meeting to order and **ALAN GUNZBURG** led the Pledge of Allegiance. With **BOB MORGAN** at the piano, **MIKE HAYDEN** belted out "My Country Tis of Thee," "Hello Dolly," and "Toot, Toot, Tootsie."

**MIKE HAYDEN** reminded us that a trip to the Intrepid Museum in New York is a great trip for grandchildren and **MIKE** is there volunteering every Tuesday.

**MARK GEIMER** asked for others to join his Zoom edit team and help with video editing of our meetings. He emphasized that volunteers will be fully trained and do not need to bring any experience to the task.

**ARTHUR STAMPLEMAN** invited members to join the Bruce Museum docent program. The Bruce is undergoing a major doubling in the size of the museum that requires additional docent volunteers. **ARTHUR** emphasized what a wonderful opportunity this is for volunteers to expand their knowledge about subjects on exhibit. Full training is provided from the museum staff and curators on the exhibition content, touring techniques and how to work with the varying audiences. Tours are one hour, Tuesday through Sunday, and docents self-select the tours they lead. Training sessions are held on Mondays for two

hours and new docents get a full year of training. Contact Bruce's education director, Kathleen Holko, at [kholko@brucemuseum.org](mailto:kholko@brucemuseum.org) or call her at 203-413-6741. You can also contact **ARTHUR** at [Arthur.stampleman@gmail.com](mailto:Arthur.stampleman@gmail.com) or call him at 914-267-7221.

Corresponding Secretary **ARNOLD GORDON** gave a gentle reminder that flu and pneumonia shots were readily available and should not be delayed much longer; the same applies to the new, bivalent Covid-19 booster shot, given the recent emergence of more Omicron variants.

Tag sales and flea markets are always fun and sources of great bargains. A big sale with lots of possibilities will be held at the Second Congregational Church's Fletcher Hall from Thursday, October 20, through Saturday, October 22, from 10 – 4 pm, and on Sunday, October 23, from 12 – 3 pm. The church is at 139 East Putnam Avenue (corner of the Post Road and Maple Avenue).

He then asked "Did you know that beer contains female hormones? Drink enough and you cannot drive or shut the hell up." **ARNOLD** mentioned that he recently saw a label for a three- or four-year-old child's garment, 100% polyester, made in China, with these instructions: "Wash inside out. Remove child before washing."

Are you a lexophile? A lover of words, especially in word games, puzzles, anagrams, etc.? For example, "To write with a broken pencil is pointless." An annual competition is held to see who can create the best original sentence. Here are some of the entries:

- England has no kidney bank, but it does have a Liverpool.
- A thief who stole a calendar got twelve months.
- A will is a dead giveaway.
- The guy who fell onto an upholstery machine last week is now fully recovered.
- Before they dine, skeletons always say bone appetit.
- I didn't like my beard at first. Then it grew on me.
- When chemists die, they barium.
- I stayed up all night to see where the sun went, and then it dawned on me.

He then introduced **TOM HEALY**, who told four classic "blonde" jokes.

**Membership:** **PETER STERN** announced birthdays, returnees and guests. **PETER** announced that we had 88 members present in person and seven on Zoom, for a total of 95 members present. We also had two guests, Gary Berner, the guest of **TAD LARRABEE** and **PETER BERG**, and John Murphy, the guest of **FRANK SALEM** and **LEE LUNDY**. **PETER** also announced four birthdays: **BILL FEATHERSTON** at 80, **MICHAEL KARP** at 88, **JOEL BLUMBERG** at 82, and **KEITH ROE** at 77. Happy birthday from everyone at RMA!!

**PETER** noted that Past President **RUSS HARDEN** was on Zoom. **RUSS** has the distinction of having been president during Covid and presiding **ONLY** over Zoom meetings. He also mentioned that **RICK HOLZ** had returned from Lauderdale by-the-Sea, Florida.

### INDUCTIONS

**JOERG BLASER** nominated Frank Salem for membership. Frank holds a degree in economics from Canisius College in Buffalo and an MBA from Columbia. Frank had a successful career in investment management and risk assessment for institutional clients. He was a trader and then managed bond portfolios for pension plans, Allianz Versicherungen and other insurance companies and pension funds. He has extensive experience in liability management and hedging strategies for investment funds and endowments. He retired in 2020, and is married with three adult



*Blaser, Salem, Morrison*

children. He is an active member of the Greenwich CCRRC Revolver and Rifle Club, where he shoots competitive pistol matches and works with new shooters to get them familiar with the club's safety procedures and participation in competitive target shooting. Frank's nomination was seconded by **TOM MORRISON** and he was approved unanimously.



*FitzPatrick, Markowitz, Santora*

**JIM SANTORA** then nominated Steve Markowitz. Steve is a native of Connecticut who attended New York University where he majored in accounting. After spending the early part of his career in this field he transitioned into finance and Wall Street, where he joined the firm of Drexel Burnham on the banking side of the business. From there his career led to two small hedge funds where he functioned as a trader of the company's financial assets. He retired at the age of 59 and resides in Glenville with his wife

Debby, with whom he has three adult children, all boys. In retirement Steve sought to "give back" and do some volunteering. A friend told him about an organization called Reset Westchester, whose goal is to help Afghan and Ukrainian refugees resettle in the United States. The organization helps them learn English and provides assistance in finding apartments, jobs and obtaining drivers' licenses. Steve's role is helping transport the refugees to and from their jobs. Steve's interests include walking, tennis and reading; he would also like to learn Hearts. His nomination was seconded by **TONY FITZPATRICK**, and approved unanimously by the membership. Welcome to both new members of the RMA!

**Speakers:** **TIM BROOKS** previewed this week's speaker, Alison Kibler, Ph.D. from Franklin and Marshall College, who will speak on "The Long History of Hate Speech." Next week's speaker, Dr. Katie Takayasu, was called to our attention by **WILL MORRISON**. She will speak about: "Plants First: A Physician's Guide to Wellness Through a Plant-Forward Diet." She practices holistic health, bridging the gap between traditional Western medicine and the evidenced-based health tools of nutrition, acupuncture, meditation, botanicals and lifestyle.

**Volunteer Hours:** **DON ROTZIEN** reported 25 members donated 267 hours with **JEFF JUNKER** the leader. **DON** also introduced a new system for reporting hours.

Annual Banquet Chair **JACK WEIR** called our attention to openings at several tables and he invited new members to reach out to him if they wish to be placed at a table.

## GAMES WE PLAY

**Pickleball:** **PAT MacCARTHY** reported that pickleball was rained out, but gave the following tennis report.

**Tennis:** In the Opening Round, the Court 1 winners were **DON BREIMEISTER** and **RALPH HEWITT** and the Court 2 winners were **ANDRE MAZUREK** and **PETER DODGE**. In the Finals Round, the Court 1 winners were **ANDRE** and **DON** and the Court 2 winners were **PAT MacCARTHY** and **JOE MANCINELLI**. Next weeks' captain is **BILL FAKUNDINY**.

**RMA Golf:** **MIKE RYAN** gave the golf report indicating that there were 12 "hearty" players who showed up in 45-degree temperatures on Tuesday at the Griff. There were two winners, **MICHAEL AMBROSINO** and **PAT YUEN**. Because of the cold temperatures, only two players broke 100. He also indicated that next Tuesday is the last session of the season. At that session if they have 16 or more players sign up, a "best ball" competition will be played which is always great fun. He also reported that last week's annual luncheon was attended by 31 golf enthusiasts at the Field Club and the whole event was, as **MIKE** says, "very enjoyable."

**Tai Chi:** **WILL MORRISON** urged members to come and join a Tai Chi session on Monday mornings at 8:30 in Old Greenwich. To learn more and to get on the weekly mailing list, contact **WILL MORRISON** at [wdmorrison@gmail.com](mailto:wdmorrison@gmail.com).

**Hearts:** **DON CONWAY** reported that two games were played with **GRANT PERKINS** winning the first game and **JACK SWEGER** and **JOHN STANKUNAS** tied for the second game. **DON** reported that the group had one extra hand playoff and **JACK** and **JOHN** knocked each other out leaving **DON CONWAY** to win the game with the low score! Hmmm.

**Walkers and Talkers:** **TAD LARRABEE** reported that seven walkers met at the Eastern Civic Center and took a wooded path through the Helen Binney Kitchel Natural Park in Old Greenwich. They viewed construction progress of the new bridge on Sound Beach Avenue, the new apartment construction near the railroad station and cut through Innis Arden to catch a view of the very impressive and large clubhouse nearing completion. The group also toured the Tomac Cemetery, the oldest in Greenwich dating back to mid-1600's. Finally, they took a last glimpse at the remains of the old Civic Center which is being



replaced with a new and improved building by the end of 2023. All and all **TAD** reports “an interesting and comfortable walk.”

**Bridge:** **RON MURRAY** said the bridge players on October 12 had five players. **JOE WATTS** was the high scorer with 4,150 points, **FRANK LEE** had 3, 530, and **TONY COCCHI** scored 2000. **RON** wants everyone to know that new players are always welcome to come play bridge.

**Volunteer Program:** **WILL MORRISON** left new log sheets on the volunteer table and left a report of the last date that a volunteer logged their hours. In the week ending October 12, 25 members donated 267 hours with 12 non-profits receiving 168 hours. Call-a-Ride received the most with 46 hours. RMA received 99 hours. The volunteer with the most hours was **JEFF JUNKER** with 44. **WILL** said that next week a new online form to log hours will be introduced with a new URL at <https://forms.gle/ZrhmEFvYapsh1Kas9>. **WILL** says it is a live system and the data logged in goes right into the reports. Therefore, do not press ‘submit’ unless it is real data.

## TODAY’S SPEAKER

**TIM BROOKS** introduced Professor M. Alison Kibler, who spoke on the subject “The Long



History of Hate Speech.” Professor Kibler observed that hate speech is again making headlines. Major professional sports teams have abandoned their racist mascots and adopted new names. Colleges and universities are grappling with how to respond to racial epithets and anti-Semitic graffiti. Social media platforms remove political groups for violating their hate speech policies. These incidents have generated sharp debates about the value of free speech: Is

free speech a rallying cry for white supremacists? Or is free speech a vehicle for progressive activism?

History clearly shows that struggles over hate speech are nothing new. Hate speech has been a century-long rift in American politics because it pits two deeply held American values against each other: free speech and equality. In this talk, and in her book *Censoring*

*Racial Ridicule*, Kibler explores the relationship between free expression, democracy, and equality in America. She shows how, historically, the Irish, Jewish, and African American campaigns against racial ridicule in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century are at the roots of contemporary debates over hate speech. Irish, Jewish, and African American groups of the era resisted derogatory representations in popular culture by lobbying behind the scenes, boycotting particular acts, and even staging theater riots. Kibler demonstrates that these groups' tactics evolved and diverged over time, with some continuing to pursue street protest while others sought redress through new censorship laws. She described how “civil rights” came to be defined so broadly as to include stage and screen performances and visual representations.

Both liberals and conservatives have at times championed censorship as a way of suppressing views of which they disapprove. Today, with censorship by the federal government largely precluded by the first amendment to the Constitution (with some interesting exceptions), local governments and private entities have largely taken on the role of defining what is permissible speech, and what they consider “hate speech.”

Professor Kibler’s talk was followed by a lively Q&A session.

M. Alison Kibler earned her BA from Brandeis University and her PhD from the University of Iowa. A professor in American Studies and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies at Franklin and Marshall College in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, she is the author of *Rank Ladies: Gender and Cultural Hierarchy in American Vaudeville, 1890-1930* and *Censoring Racial Ridicule: Irish, Jewish, and African American Struggles Over Race and Representation, 1890-1930*. She is currently writing a book about feminist television activism in the 1970s.

**Note: The views expressed in this presentation are those of the speaker, and not those of the RMA.**

To see the full presentation, go to <https://greenwichrma.org/> and click on “Speakers.”

### IMPORTANT REMINDERS

**TO CBB CONTRIBUTORS:** Scribe for the next meeting, on October 26, will be →**BOB SHULLMAN**←. Please send a copy of any remarks you want included in the CBB to [bob.shullman@gmail.com](mailto:bob.shullman@gmail.com).

**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 **WILL MORRISON** at [wdmorrison@gmail.com](mailto:wdmorrison@gmail.com) or at <https://forms.gle/ZrhmEFvYapsh1Kas9> .

**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	9:30 am	QiGong and Tai Chi Workout	Register in advance with 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