

CIGAR BOX BULLETIN

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



www.greenwichrma.org

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Next Week's Scribe: ARNOLD GORDON, AJGORDO@VERIZON.NET

"Leadership is not only having a vision but also having the courage, the discipline and the resources to get you there" – George Washington

President **JACK WEIR** opened the meeting at 9:45 am. He thanked all the members who participated in organizing the meeting, including Scribe, projectionists, greeter, mentor, formatter, refreshments, audio/video and set-up. He reported the RMA to be in a good financial state, with an increased membership, a couple of members who have rejoined, and many others in the pipeline. With regard to dues, Treasurer **JEFF JUNKER** noted that 108 members have paid, and that he would be happy to accept dues either at the meeting or via mail.

In other announcements, sponsors are needed for RMA trips in July and August. Our events coordinators will handle details, but members are needed to identify venues and commit to promoting events. The upcoming trip to Belmont sold out. However, **BOB BISHOP** will be unable to participate and is interested in re-selling his ticket for the event. If interested in **BOB's** ticket, please contact **TOM HEALY**. The bus for the trip to Belmont will depart from the parking lot at St. Paul's Church on June 15 at 1:30 pm, and return at about 8:00 pm.

JACK also mentioned that RMA is reviewing its insurance arrangements at the Board level and would welcome the assistance of any member that has expertise in liability insurance for 501c(7) non-profit organizations. Please contact **WILL MORRISON** if you can help.

Corresponding Secretary **ARNOLD GORDON** then introduced **MIKE SMITH**, who delivered a eulogy for recently departed former member **REID MCINTYRE**.

EULOGY FOR REID MCINTYRE

ARNOLD then provided some follow-up information on Wallace Barra, whose daughter, Joan, had left some of his wartime and other memorabilia last week at the church for any RMA member who wanted it. She wrote that he enjoyed RMA membership a lot. However, none of our available membership records mention Wallace. **ARNOLD** learned from Joan that her father was a B-24 fighter pilot in WWII and then an Eastern Airlines pilot. He surmised that he might have been a member in the 1980s but unless someone remembers him, it is unclear when or if he was a member. As an interesting side note, during WWII, his wife flew for the Civilian Air Patrol along the east coast looking for submarines. Joan mentioned that she has a model of a B-24 with an 18" wingspan that is mounted on a stand; if anyone is interested in acquiring it, please contact **ARNOLD** at (ajgordo@verizon.net).

He continued that summertime entertainment is here at the Greenwich Historical Society, with Music on the Great Lawn, Thursday evenings 6:30 to 8:30 pm through August 31st. For details see: <https://greenwichhistory.org/music-on-the-great-lawn/>.

ARNOLD asked everyone to save November 8th for the annual RMA banquet/lunch. More details will be provided later but he recommended that we encourage our newer members and guests whose membership is pending to come to this popular event. Although it is early for the usual detailed planning, he mentioned that about 20 table captains will be needed and asked for volunteers to let him know if they would like to help with this important responsibility. Before introducing jokester for the day **AV RIVEL**, **ARNOLD** once again challenged us with some things to ponder:

"If corn oil is made from corn, and vegetable oil is made from vegetables, what is baby oil made from?"

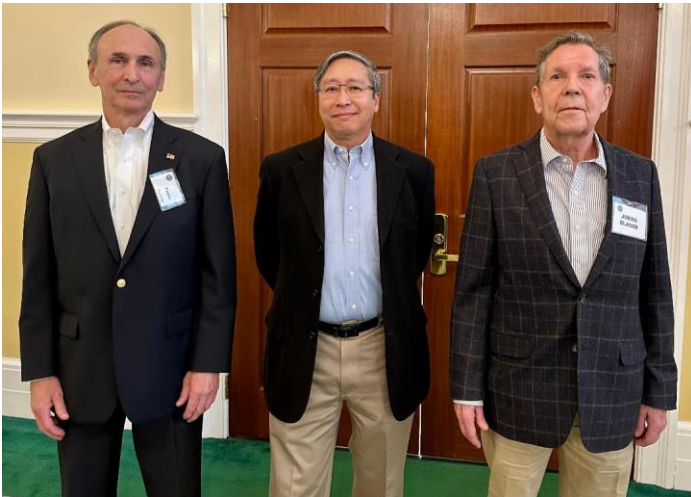
"What disease did cured ham actually have?"

“Can a hearse carrying a corpse drive in the carpool lane?”

“When you go to heaven, do you get stuck wearing the clothes you were buried in for eternity?”

The membership report was delivered by **JOHN KAVANAGH**, substituting for **PETER STERN**. **JOHN** reported attendance of 87 in person, and nine via Zoom, for a total of 96. Birthdays announced were **GEORGE DIPPY**, 89, **FRANK SALEM**, 69, and **BOB MORGAN**, 87. Returnees were **FRANK SCARPA** from Naples, Florida, and **LEE LUNDY** from Lake Oswego, Oregon.

Special congratulations went to **ARNOLD GORDON** and his wife, Francesca, who are celebrating their 59th wedding anniversary today, June 7.



Salem, Chan, Blaser

There was one induction, as **FRANK SALEM** and **JOERG BLASER** nominated Sonny Chan for membership. Sonny is from the Boston area, born in Ft. Devens. He earned a bachelor’s degree in finance from Boston University and an MBA from Boston College. Sonny is an insurance risk manager and has worked for well-known companies such as Tishman Speyer, Starwood Hotels, and Colgate-Palmolive. He is a sports enthusiast—he has attended 35 “Frozen

Four” college hockey tournaments—and is an active member of the Cos Cob Revolver and Rifle Club. Married for 16 years to Sandra, their daughter Amanda is a software engineer and lives in Boston. By unanimous vote, Sonny was welcomed as a member of the RMA

SPEAKERS PROGRAM

BOB PHILLIPS previewed today’s speaker, economist Larry Kantor, who is making his eighth appearance before the RMA in what is, in effect, becoming an annual, private appraisal of the economy. Larry’s topic today is, “Inflation and the Fed. What does it mean for the economy and the financial markets?” **BOB MEANEY** and **BOB RIMMER** provided a preview of next week’s speaker, G. Pascal Zachary. Mr Zachary will speak about his book,

Endless Frontier, Vannevar Bush, Engineer of the American Century. As President Roosevelt's chief science advisor throughout WWII, Bush organized and directed more than 6,000 engineers and scientists to drive the innovation necessary to take the lead in the war, and to help create the military-industrial complex. He was instrumental in the scientific development of the atomic bomb. After the war, he proposed the establishment of the National Science Foundation.

ADDITIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

BILL FEATHERSTON reminded us of the ROMEO lunch scheduled for tomorrow, June 8 [Note: this was postponed due to weather conditions].

PETER UHRY announced a Friends of Binney Park fund-raiser in cooperation with Images art store, on June 15 from 6:00-8:00 pm, at 202 Sound Beach Avenue in Old Greenwich. There will be a silent auction in support of the park and its preservation. Local artist Suzy Simpson has graciously donated her exquisite artworks to contribute to this worthy cause. More information is at <https://www.friendsofbinneypark.org/>.

LOU RUPNIK added that there would be a free performance by The Bob Button Band at Binney Park, June 28, 7:00 to 8:30 pm.

HUMAN INTEREST

MIKE HAYDEN recounted one of his aviation experiences, ejecting from a malfunctioning jet over Florida. When the engine malfunctioned, **MIKE** and his co-pilot were too far from the air field to glide down. They ejected successfully, but **MIKE's** parachute malfunctioned and he had to deploy it by manually pulling it out of its pack. Upon hitting the ground, **MIKE** could not move and, seeing the sky and clouds above, thought he was dead. Eventually, he discovered he could move and got up to look for his co-pilot. He discovered that he had landed in a pile of tree limbs on top of a mound of soft earth—the only such favorable “landing” site in the vicinity. His co-pilot's parachute had functioned properly and he also survived. As a result of this near-death experience, **MIKE** left the Navy and Princeton, and joined Pan American Airlines where became the airline's “poster boy”.

GAMES MEMBERS PLAY

Tai Chi, WILL MORRISON. Monday at 9:30 am at First Congregational Church on Sound Beach Ave in Old Greenwich.

Pickleball, PAT MacCARTHY. He recommended that pickleball not be played this Thursday [June 8] due to poor air quality. He also reminded the group that pickleball is typically played, weather permitting, from 9 am to 11 am on Mondays and from 10 am to noon on Thursdays at Christiano Field. If you want to join the pickleball contact list, please contact **PAT** at pmacCarthy415@gmail.com.

Golf, JOHN CRAINE. We had 19 golfers yesterday under varying weather conditions. Winners of our four competition holes were: Hole 5 – **ANDRE MAZUREK**, Hole 7 – **PETER TUNLEY**, Hole 8 – **RUSS HARDEN**, and Hole 15 – **GRAN BURGESS**. Notable scores for 18 holes were **GRAN BURGESS**, 93, **RUSS HARDEN**, 92, **PETER TUNLEY**, 90, and a very cool 84 carded by **TONY FITZPATRICK**. For 15 holes: **JIM BOARDMAN**, **MIKE SMITH** and **BART BARTHOLOMEW**, 85, and **TOM HEALY**, 79. For the nine holers, **ANDRE MAZUREK** carded a 49. **MIKE RYAN** is our captain next Tuesday. Sign-up sheets for June 13th, as well as for June 20th are on the bulletin board in the back. We will be starting at 8 am and continue playing following the women for the rest of June.

Hearts, BOB SHULLMAN. Eight members played eight games as follows. At Table 1 three games were played. **BILL FAKUNDINY** won two of them. **JOHN KNIGHT** won one while also shooting the moon once. At Table 2 five games were played. **TOM HEALY** won three of them while **JOE DOWLING** and **DON CONWAY** each won one game. There were 11 moon shots at this table. **TOM MORONEY** and **JOE DOWLING** each shot the moon once while **TOM HEALY** shot the moon nine times (!).

Bridge, RON MURRAY. Here are the bridge results for Wednesday, May 31. There were 11 players. Announcer was **RON MURRAY**.

1. RON FRIEDMAN	1720
2. CHARLEY LAND	1590
3. FRANK LEE	1500
3. ED MASTOLONI	1500

We play Wednesday afternoon at 12:30 in the cafe on the ground floor of the Greenwich Library. Lunch is available. We welcome all members and guests who are interested in bridge, whether experts or beginners, to join us. If you think your game needs a little refreshing, we have several excellent players who will be happy to provide advice.

Walkers, JEFF JUNKER and TAD LARRABEE. Six RMA walkers met in the Mianus River park parking lot off Merribrook Lane in Stamford. We took the Riverside trail south from



the Merribrook bridge into Mianus River park. After paralleling the river, we climbed up the rise and headed west walking along the southern border of the park, stopping to explore a couple of rock chimneys that marked the remains of a couple former hunters/ horsemen huts. In the early 20th century much of what is now parkland was part of a 200+ acre estate with riding trails in the river valley. The main estate house was located across Westover Road from today's Fort Stamford Park. Besides the

hut chimneys, all that remains of the estate is the formal gardens maintained by the Stamford Garden Club in Fort Stamford Park and the horse and carriage barn which is the "red barn" at the entrance to Mianus Park. After touring the remains of the second hut, a couple walkers needed to get back home, so we took the Laurel Trail across the park back to the Hill Trail, (the mountain laurel CT State flower... was in bloom). Hiking down the hill trail we linked up with the Riverside Trail where two walked back to the parking lot. The rest of us walked north along the Mianus River - explored the trails in the "Northeast passage" of the park before heading back to the parking lot to conclude about a four mile, two hour walk.

TODAY'S SPEAKER

Today's speaker was Larry Kantor, on "Inflation and the Fed, What Does It Mean for the Economy and Financial Markets?"

Forecasts for a US recession are rampant following the greatest policy tightening in over 40 years. But it hasn't happened yet and – absent an unexpected catastrophic event -- is unlikely to occur anytime soon. The COVID experience – which generated unprecedented monetary and fiscal stimulus and a historic labor shortage – has cushioned the economy, preventing a collapse. The end result is an extended period of sluggish growth instead of a traditional recession. Inflation peaked last summer and should continue to decline, but not enough to reach the Fed's target of 2% anytime soon. As a result, the Fed is likely to remain on hold for an extended period instead of cutting rates this year as the markets are pricing in. The period of ultra-low inflation and interest rates is over, and we will need to get used to it. A lively Q&A session followed the talk.

Kantor has been a senior leader in the financial industry for many years. Larry has appeared on seven previous occasions before the RMA and has received widespread praise for his clear, concise, and comprehensible views on national issues from an economist's perspective.



He is currently an operating partner at Atlas Merchant Capital, a private equity firm. He was a 2016 advanced Leadership Institute fellow at Harvard University following his retirement as managing director and global head of research at

Barclays, where he was responsible for global research, including economics, equities, interest rates, foreign exchange, emerging markets, credit, and commodities. He was also a member of the investment bank executive committee and made numerous media appearances, including CNBC, Bloomberg TV and radio, and The Nightly Business Report. Prior to working at Barclays, Larry held several positions of increasing responsibility in academia, at the Federal Reserve Board and in the financial industry. Larry received his PhD and MA in Economics from Ohio State University.

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

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

JEFF JUNKER reminded the membership that annual dues are now past due. Please get your checks to **JEFF** in person or by mail to 9 Tree Top Terrace, Greenwich CT 06831. More than one hundred members have paid their dues on time. Please don't burden our leaders with having to make individual calls to delinquents. Thanks.

TO CBB CONTRIBUTORS: Scribe for the next meeting will be →**ARNOLD GORDON**←. Please make sure you give a copy of any remarks you want included in the CBB to him, at ajgordo@verizon.net

ALL MEMBERS: Do not forget to report all your inside and outside volunteer hours at www.greenwichtma.org/log.

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 if you can support this effort.

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.

Thanks to **ANDY HOLMES** and **TIM BROOKS** for pictures this time.

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RMA 2023 CALENDAR

Weekly Repetitive Activities*			
Day	Time	Activity	Contact
Mondays	9:30 am	QiGong and Tai Chi Workout	Register in advance with Will Morrison – wdmorrison@gmail.com
Mondays	9:00 am	Pickleball at Christiano Park	Pat MacCarthy – pmacCarthy415@gmail.com Michael LaGamma – mdlgamma@optonline.net

Tuesdays	9:30 am	RMA Golf, the Griff Golf Course, Greenwich	Mike Ryan – ryantomac@netscape.net
Tuesdays	Resumes in fall	Platform (paddle) tennis at Loughlin Field, Cos Cob	James 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	1:00 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 Michael LaGamma – mdlgamma@optonline.net
Friday	Resumes in Fall	Indoor Tennis	Andy Holmes - Andyholmes56@gmail.com

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