

# CIGAR BOX BULLETIN



Retired Men's Association of Greenwich, Inc.  
1 West Putnam Avenue, Greenwich, CT 06830



[www.greenwichrma.org](http://www.greenwichrma.org)

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**SCRIBE: BOB GIAQUINTO**

**April 3 Scribe: JOHN REESE, [JREESE@VALIDEA.COM](mailto:JREESE@VALIDEA.COM)**

*“As you slide down the banister of life, may splinters never be pointed the wrong way.” – Irish Proverb*

President **JACK WEIR** commenced the meeting at 9:45 am. Former President **SAM MARASSO** led with the Pledge of Allegiance. Our song leader was **TOM HEALY** with **BOB MORGAN** on the piano as we sang “My Country Tis of Thee,” “If I Had a Hammer” and “Leaving on a Jet Plane.” For assisting with this meeting our president acknowledged members **TIM BROOKS**, CBB editor, **SPIKE LIPSCHUTZ**, refreshments, **DON ROTZIEN**, volunteer advocate, **TONY COCCHI**, projectionist, the audio/video team, and the setup crew.

**JACK** then made the following comments.

1. The annual meeting will take place next Wednesday, April 3. Notice is hereby given that we will consider the report of the Nominating Committee, hear any additional nominations from the floor, and then vote on the 2024-2025 slate, which will then become effective on May 1, 2024, the beginning of RMA's new fiscal year.

**[PROPOSED RMA SLATE](#)**

2. There will be a meeting on Thursday, March 28, at Greenwich Library to discuss the October, 2024, celebration of the RMA's 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary.
3. **DAVE RICHARDS** is already under way writing a booklet on the RMA's history, and invites short two-page anecdotal essays about experiences, recollections of members (especially before 2014).

Corresponding Secretary **ARNOLD GORDON** introduced **JACK WEIR**, who delivered a eulogy for **ED FARRELL**. Edward John Farrell, age 85, of Riverside, Connecticut, died peacefully at his home surrounded by the love of his family on January 12, 2024. Ed, the eldest of three sons, was born to Frederick "Chris" and Marie (Kilgallon) Farrell in Queens, New York, on October 8, 1938. Ed attended the University of Dayton in Ohio, and he taught high school English and History for a year in Cleveland and two years in Dayton. Upon returning to New York, he took a position at St. John's Home in Rockaway for two years and served in the New York Army National Guard (69<sup>th</sup> Infantry) before joining the newly created computer department at Chemical Bank and completing his education at Fordham University. In 1964, Ed met Sue (Cappiello), the love of his life, at the Ogre's Ball. They married on September 10, 1966. In addition to his wife, Ed is survived by his daughters Christine and Marie, and son-in-law, Tim, plus grandchildren.

#### [Ed Farrell Eulogy](#)

A eulogy for Dr. **MARTIN WAINE** was delivered by **STEVE MYERS**. Dr. Waine died on March 12, 2024 at his home in Greenwich at the age of almost 91. He joined the RMA in 2007 and was an active member until a few years ago when his health began to decline. He was a Greenwich resident of over 44 years. **MARTIN** was born in Berlin Germany in 1933 and immigrated to the US as an infant. After a tour in the US Army, he earned a bachelor's degree at Columbia University followed by a PhD in physics from Yale University. During that time he met his wife Myra and together they enjoyed a happy marriage of almost 61 years. After graduation, he became a professor of physics at Mount Holyoke College, and eventually left for a career in engineering and business.

#### [Martin Waine Eulogy](#)

**ARNOLD** mentioned that a nice article about Sal DeAngelo was just published in the *Greenwich Free Press*. See this:

[Article about Sal DeAngelo – Greenwich Free Press](#)

He then reported that the Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) will start their pavement rehabilitation project on I-95 between exits 2 and 6 northbound and southbound on April 1<sup>st</sup> (not a joke!). There will be lane closures that will interfere with travel. If you use I-95, you might want to check the actual schedule here:

[Schedule for CTDOT Pavement Work on I-95](#)

He reminded us about the upcoming solar eclipse on April 8<sup>th</sup> and recommended a new article with good advice on where and when to view the event, including in our area. (Requires log-in)

[Viewing Eclipse – New York Times Article](#)

Friday, March 29, is National Vietnam War Veterans Day and there will be ceremonies in Greenwich to remember and honor the nine million servicemen and women who served and died during that war; 58,000 names of those who died are memorialized on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. At 9 am there will be an observance at the memorial on Greenwich Avenue; then at 9:30 am, there will be one in Eugene Morlot Memorial Park at Sherman Avenue in Byram. Then at 10 am, there will be an observance at the Glenville war memorial next to the firehouse. Finally, there will be a gathering at the nearby American Legion Post 29 headquarters with some light refreshments.

True to form, **ARNOLD** delivered some off-beat humor, this time in the form of “Rules to Remember in Life:”

1. If you help someone when they're in trouble - they will remember you when they're in trouble again.
2. Alcohol does not solve any problems - but then, neither does milk.

3. Many people are alive only because it's illegal to shoot them.
4. No matter how rich you are, no matter how generous you are, no matter how good you look, the number of people who attend your funeral will depend on the weather, unless there's an open bar.
5. When a woman is pregnant, all her friends touch her stomach and say, "Congratulations." But no one goes up to the man, touch his penis and say, "Good Job." Men are so unappreciated.

He then introduced **JERRY SCHWENDEMAN**, the authentic jokester for the day, who told a humorous story about a man on an airplane who encountered a woman who revealed that she was a speaker at a nymphomaniac convention in Chicago.

Membership Chairman **PETER STERN** revealed that attendance was 86 in person, plus six on Zoom, for a total of 92 (count by **TOG PEARSON**). Today's Greeter was **JOHN KAVANAGH**. This was followed by announcement of birthdays, with accompaniment by **BOB MORGAN** at the piano.

HOWARD	CHICKERING	82
TONY	KANE	74
JIM	BOARDMAN	81
TAD	LARRABEE	83
MICKEY	ROBINSON	79
BOB	RIMMER	86

There were five guests. Rich White was the guest of **JAMES DEAN** and **KRIS BRATBERG**; Phil Schweitzer was the guest of **FRANK SCARPA** and **ED PARKER**; Charlie Ginste was the guest of **PETER BERG**; Bob Dunn the guest of **GERRY SEITZ**; and Herb Roseman the guest of **SAM MARASSO**.

The returnee was **TOM HEALY** from The Villages, FL, and there was an in-person welcome to Past President **RUSS HARDEN** ("wonderful to see"), today's speaker **DAVE RICHARDS**, and **KIP SCHULZE** (golf season must be approaching). A special welcome on Zoom to **FRANK SCARPA**, Phil Schweitzer's "long distance Sponsor."

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**BOB BISHOP** and **BOB PHILLIPS** are seeking volunteers on behalf of the Town of Greenwich to serve as parking appeals hearing officers. These officers are appointed by the town essentially to lower the temperature of those who believe they have wrongly received a parking ticket. The program gives one an opportunity to seek redress in an inexpensive and speedy manner. There is currently a need for additional hearing officers. What is involved is roughly once a month, you are called on to conduct a hearing by phone on either a Thursday evening or Friday morning. Prior to the hearing, you will receive a file containing all relevant information concerning each of the appeals of that day. After a review of each file, you place a call to the person making the appeal and discuss the appeal. You then make a decision to grant or deny the appeal or modify the amount of the ticket. You then notify parking services which in turn notifies the ticketed individual. The time commitment is the hearing which generally take about two hours plus preparation time. The pay is terrible, being zero, but you will get RMA volunteer hours and satisfaction from helping your fellow residents. For information contact either **BOB**.

**Speakers.** **BOB RIMMER** previewed today's speaker, **DAVID ALAN RICHARDS**, RMA member, Yale graduate and a Yale Law School graduate. He will speak on "Collecting Shakespeare's First Folio in America." **PETER BERG** then announced that next week's speaker will be Greenwich First Selectman Fred Camillo, on "Greenwich: Knowing the Way. Showing the Way. Leading the Way." Camillo will discuss how he is meeting the many challenges facing the town of Greenwich. The public is invited to attend in person and via Zoom, and is welcome to submit questions in advance. To ensure that your question is posed you are invited to submit it in advance to **PETER BERG** at [petereberg@gmail.com](mailto:petereberg@gmail.com).

**HORST TEBBE** announced that today's talk will not be televised, and that the A/V team is looking for volunteers to help with Zoom and video editing.

## SPECIAL EVENTS

**ALAN WEYL** is the special events chairman. Coming events include:

- New York Botanical Garden Event on Friday April 12<sup>th</sup>. Contact **ANDRE MAZUREK** ([Mazurek.a.j@gmail.com](mailto:Mazurek.a.j@gmail.com)). Anyone wanting a discount must get their NYBG membership number to us no later than this Saturday. For this membership number go to NYBG.org, then forward the QR code to us no later than this Saturday. Also, we will accept more folks but we'll have to work on travel arrangements as the bus is full. Aside from that, all looks great and **TROY JOHNSON** will send the general outline of the trip shortly to those who are going. He is still in Asia but working from there on this event.
- Caramoor Jazz Festivals in Katonah, NY, on June 22 and July 27. Contact **MIKE RYAN**.
- Metropolitan Opera performance in New Rochelle, NY, May 11, also contact **MIKE RYAN**.
- Aqueduct Racetrack and Casino, June 27, contact **TOM HEALY**.
- NY Mets Game - details to follow.

Correction: The Yale University Walking Tour, a great trip, will be held on Tuesday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, led by **DAVE RICHARDS**, Yale Class of '67. This was inaccurately reported in a prior CBB.

## **SPORTS REPORTS**

**Golf.** **JOE MANCINELLI** announced that the scheduled start of golf play, Tuesday, April 2, has been canceled due to poor weather conditions. The new planned golf start date is Tuesday, April 9.

**Tennis.** **ANDY HOLMES** reported that although the next tennis season is still months away, we are starting to get prepared for the new season. For those of you currently participating in the current indoor season, I sent out an email a little over a week ago asking that you let me know if you will be playing again next year and to please send me a deposit. For those new RMA members who would like to join our tennis group, or any existing members who have thought about joining, we would love for you to become a part of our group. The season will run from September 2024 to early May

2025. We play on Friday afternoons from 1:30 to 3:00 at the Old Greenwich Tennis Academy. I will be happy to answer any of your questions about the tennis program. So, please come see me at the break or send me an email. My email address is [andyholmes56@gmail.com](mailto:andyholmes56@gmail.com).

As for last Friday's results, four matches were played at the Old Greenwich Tennis Academy. In the opening round, the winners on Court 1 were **JOE MANCINELLI** and **ANDY HOLMES** and on Court 2 the winners were **ANDRE MAZUREK** and **LAWRENCE MERL**. In the finals round, the winners on Court 1 were **ANDRE** and **ANDY** and on Court 2 the winners were **RALPH NEWITTER** and **JIM FISHBEIN**. This week's captain will be **RALPH NEWITTER**.

**Paddle Tennis.** **JIM DEAN** (at right) announced the winner of the Annual Paddle Tennis Traveling Trophy. The recipient of this award was a surprised **JERRY COLEMAN**.



**Bridge.** **RON MURRAY** reported the bridge results for Wednesday, March 20. There were eight players. Top scores were **TONY COCCHI**, 5370, **RON MURRAY**, 4140, and **RON FRIEDMAN**, 3380. Good news for **ANDRE** and **TONY**. **ANDRE** made a slam (with his partner **TONY**) for the third week in a row! Also, **TONY** scored over 5000 points, a rare accomplishment. Congratulations to both! We play Wednesday afternoon at the cafe on the ground floor of the Greenwich Library. Lunch is available. We invite all members and guests, whether newcomers or experienced players, who are interested in bridge to join our group. No need to worry if you feel your game is not up to par - we have excellent players who are happy to answer any questions you may have.

**Walkers.** **TAD LARRABEE** reported that a small contingent of walkers braved the cold and wind last Thursday for a nice walk in Bruce Park. We appreciated the Town's map of the arboretum that is an official element of the park. We also spent some time admiring the two horse sculptures by Deborah

Butterfield called “Valentine and Orson” that look like driftwood, but are actually cast bronze. They stand near the large sundial. We also visited another bronze sculpture by George Segal that **ARTHUR STAMPLEMAN** enjoys called “Girl Standing in Nature,” installed in 1976 for the Town’s bicentennial. There were quite a few daffodils blooming, but it was still very early spring with tree leaves and flowers barely peeking out. But at least it was a hint of more enjoyable walking weather in the very near future.



### **HUMAN INTEREST PRESENTATION**

Captain **MIKE HAYDEN** is a former pilot for PanAm and United and is presently a docent on the Intrepid docked in NYC. He told us how he got his enthusiasm for flying. At first, he was very reluctant to even board a plane but at age six, he was urged to do so. Upon hearing the starting of the engine, he got a rush and knew he wanted to be a pilot. It was not a smooth path, but nothing would stop **MIKE**. He was stubborn and demanding and did what had to be done often with some kind assistance along his journey. At one point in the service, he did not have enough teeth to qualify as a pilot. With his insistence and a kind dentist who fixed his teeth even while **MIKE** was waiting for his first paycheck, **MIKE** climbed another hurdle. The teeth had been lost in a toboggan accident. **MIKE** also discussed his experience in the military during the Cold War, where he served on aircraft carriers in the Mediterranean. He mentioned his environment in maintaining the Russian’s honesty through night and day patrols.

### **TODAY’S SPEAKER**



**BOB RIMMER** introduced today's speaker **DAVID ALAN RICHARDS**, an RMA member, Yale graduate and a Yale Law School graduate. **DAVID** captivated his audience with a riveting account of the quest by wealthy American collectors to acquire copies of Shakespeare's First Folio in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. The First Folio was published in 1623. Shakespeare died April 23, 1616.



With details pulled from deep scholarly research, **DAVID** painted the First Folio as a true literary treasure. Out of the original print run of around 750 copies, only 233 are recorded as extant today. Over half reside in just four cities - Washington D.C., London, Tokyo, and New York. A startling 90% are institutionally owned, leaving precious few in private hands

over time. There are a few copies at Yale, New York public library and one at Windsor Castle in England.

The lecture brought to life two real-life protagonists who emerged as the foremost American hunters of this "Stradivari of books." First was Alexander Smith Cochrane, the fabulously wealthy heir to America's largest carpet company fortune. His grandfather founded the Alexander Smith Carpet Company. As a Yale student enthralled by Professor William Lyon Phelps' class on Elizabethan drama, Cochrane's quest began with an 1898 purchase from the renowned London bookseller Quaritch. However, Cochrane's greatest coup was his 1919 acquisition of the entire Shakespearean collection held by English bibliophile Alfred Huth. In a dramatic pre-emptive strike, Cochrane secretly paid the staggering sum of \$180,000 (over \$4.5 million today) to secure Huth's holding of 42 prized quartos before it could even go to auction. As **RICHARDS** recounted with memorable phrasing, this "mercurial but fabulously wealthy" collector secured the trove with a coded telegram to Yale's librarian simply stating: "Have secured entire Huth Sale Shakespeares."

While Cochrane soon lost his ardor for book collecting, becoming more enthralled by "racy females" like a Polish opera singer, his legacy was enshrined in Yale's Elizabethan Club. Its vault contained his bounty, including 40 prized quarto editions that **RICHARDS** listed in comprehensive dramatic fashion.

The lecture's other central figure was Standard Oil president, and later chairman, Henry Clay Folger 1857-1930. He was the nephew of the founder of Folgers Coffee. What began with an 1889 acquisition of a humble fourth folio for \$107.50 grew into an all-consuming obsession. Folger became renowned for his "particular centripetal collecting energy", pushing him to amass 82 first folios over time. No expense was too lavish for Folger to pursue his quixotic goal of recovering "Shakespeare's original intentions and language." A 1920 purchase of Baroness Burdett Coutts' first folio for \$52,070 set a new world record. **DAVID** recounted Folger's humorous exchange with John D. Rockefeller, who questioned whether he had truly spent \$101,000 on some books, to which Folger wryly played down the "exaggerated" amount. Folger's relentless quest culminated in the creation of the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington D.C., funded by his vast fortune. The library became home to the world's largest collection, including those 82 First Folios carefully shelved.

While celebrating these two "white whales" of the collecting world, **DAVID** educated his audience on the literary importance of the First Folio. It preserved the complete texts of 18 plays, half of Shakespeare's entire canon, that would have otherwise been lost forever. He cited how one prized 1679 quarto edition of *Titus Andronicus* exists in a single surviving copy worldwide.

**RICHARDS** closed by bringing the First Folio's value full circle to the present day. He shared specifics on escalating prices at auction, including a 2020 sale that hammered at nearly \$10 million. With copies still being discovered in attics and private holdings, the global mania for obtaining this "greatest contribution to secular literature" shows no sign of abating soon. The presentation ended with an informative question & answer period.

The full presentation can be viewed by going to the RMA website at <https://greenwichrma.org>, and clicking on "Speakers." Note: The views

expressed in RMA presentations are those of the speakers. They are not intended to represent the views of the RMA or its members.

### IMPORTANT REMINDERS

**TO CBB CONTRIBUTORS:** Scribe for the next meeting will be →**JOHN REESE**←. Please send a copy of any remarks you want included in the CBB to him, *via email please!*

**ALL MEMBERS:** Do not forget to report all your inside and outside volunteer hours at [www.greenwichrma.org/log](http://www.greenwichrma.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](mailto: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.

Pictures by **ANDY HOLMES, TIM BROOKS** and **ARTHUR STAMPLEMAN**.

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Greenwich, CT 06830 · USA. Visit our website at <https://greenwichrma.org>

### RMA 2024 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	11:00 am	Pickleball	Pat MacCarthy – <a href="mailto:pmacCarthy415@gmail.com">pmacCarthy415@gmail.com</a> Michael LaGamma– <a href="mailto:mdlagamma@optonline.net">mdlagamma@optonline.net</a>

Tuesdays	9:30 am	RMA Golf, the Griff Golf Course, Greenwich	Mike Ryan – <a href="mailto:ryantomac@netscape.net">ryantomac@netscape.net</a>
Tuesdays	10 am-12 pm	Platform (paddle) tennis at Loughlin Field, Cos Cob	James 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	1:00 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	Pat MacCarthy – <a href="mailto:pmacCarthy415@gmail.com">pmacCarthy415@gmail.com</a> Michael LaGamma – <a href="mailto:mdlagamma@optonline.net">mdlagamma@optonline.net</a>
Friday	Contact Holmes	Indoor Tennis	Andy Holmes - <a href="mailto:Andyholmes56@gmail.com">Andyholmes56@gmail.com</a>

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