

CIGAR BOX BULLETIN

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



www.greenwichrma.org

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Fellowship, Volunteerism, Service

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May 22 Scribe: ARNOLD GORDON, ajgordo@verizon.net

"True friends are never apart, maybe in distance but never in heart" -
Unknown

Log your hours at <http://greenwichrma.org/log>

RMA President **WILL MORRISON** called the meeting to order at 9:45 AM. **WILL** noted that the RMA will have a presence in the Memorial Day Parade and he would like members to march. **WILL** also discussed the Curiosity Projects and the RMA AI discussion groups. **TROY JOHNSON** led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. **JIM SANTORA** tickled the ivories as **JERRY SCHWENDEMAN** sang "You're a Grand Old Flag," "Do Re Mi" and Moon River" with the group.

WILL recognized the following volunteers for today's meeting: greeter **DON ROTZIEN**, mentor **TAD LARRABEE**, CBB scribe **MICHAEL LAGAMMA**, volunteer advocate **BARRY RICHELSON**, refreshments **BOB GIAQUINTO**.

As he does on a rotating basis, today **WILL** thanked all of the Volunteer Advocates: **DON ROTZIEN, FRED WU, SPIKE LIPSCHUTZ, CRAIG WALTERS, TOG PEARSON, BARRY RICHELSON,** and **TROY JOHNSON.**

Corresponding Secretary's Report

Corresponding Secretary **ARNOLD GORDON** reported that **GEORGE CHELWICK**, member from 1996 through 2021, died on May 8th at the age of 98.

[George Chelwick Obituary](#)

ARNOLD is looking for someone to deliver an RMA eulogy; contact him at ajgordo@verizon.net or 203-340-9336.

ARNOLD repeated his advice concerning the latest Covid vaccination with some more recent information:

https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2024-05-10/could-new-covid-19-variant-flirt-lead-to-summer-surge-in-infections?sfmc_id=6532ab2f25b3640666e4ff8f&utm_id=35340673&skey_id=df6665d82b45d823426bcd7be5200a6e0ec9a9b1612a28966678fdb4f16d18f&utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=ALERT-Email-List-There%27s%20a%20new%20highly%20transmissible%20COVID-19%20variant.%20Could%20FLIRT%20lead%20to%20a%20summer%20uptick?-20240510&utm_term=Alert%20-%20News%20Alerts

The new subvariants are more easily able to spread, underscoring how important it is for those most at risk to be up to date on vaccinations and stay away from those who are sick. The good news is that the latest vaccine is very good at protecting against hospitalizations, severe outcomes and death.

ARNOLD shared his thoughts about the May 11th Cinemax viewing in New Rochelle of the live production transmitted from the Met stage of Puccini's Madame Butterfly. He, his wife and several other members attended the spectacular production and performance, which included live backstage scenes and interviews. He thanked **MIKE RYAN**, who organized the event and obtained the tickets, which were a steal at \$24 each instead of about \$200-300

on average for comparable seats at the Met. And the adjustable home theater seats were a bonus. Although not conducive to an RMA social event without, e.g., a meal together before or after the performance, it is a great opportunity to enjoy outstanding music staging and singing in comfort and convenience.

He then described an interesting new problem with marital software.

Dear Tech Support, Last year I upgraded from Boyfriend 5.0 to Husband 1.0 and noticed a distinct slow down in overall system performance, particularly in the flower and jewelry applications, which operated flawlessly under Boyfriend 5.0. In addition, Husband 1.0 uninstalled many other valuable programs, such as Romance 9.5 and Personal Attention 6.5, and then installed undesirable programs such as NBA 5.0, NFL 3.0 and Golf Clubs 4.1. Conversation 8.0 no longer runs, and Housecleaning 2.6 simply crashes the system. Please note that I have tried running Nagging 5.3 to fix these problems, but to no avail.. What can I do?

Dear Desperate, First, keep in mind that Boyfriend 5.0 is an Entertainment Package, while Husband 1.0 is an operating system. Please enter command: `ithoughtyoulovedme.html` and try to download Tears 6.2 and do not forget to install the Guilt 3.0 update. If that application works as designed, Husband 1.0 should then automatically run the applications Jewelry 2.0 and Flowers 3.5. However, remember, overuse of the above application can cause Husband 1.0 to default to Grumpy Silence 2.5, Happy Hour 7.0 or Beer 6.1. Please note that Beer 6.1 is a very bad program that will download the Farting and Snoring Loudly Beta. Whatever you do, DO NOT under any circumstances install Mother-In-Law 1.0 (it runs a virus in the background that will eventually seize control of all your system resources). In addition, please do not attempt to reinstall the Boyfriend 5.0 program. These are unsupported applications and will crash Husband 1.0. In summary, Husband 1.0 is a great program, but it does have limited memory and cannot learn new applications quickly. You might consider buying additional software to improve memory and performance. We recommend Cooking 3.0 and Hot Lingerie 7.7... Good Luck!

JERRY SCHWENDEMAN as official jokester for the day then took the stage. **JERRY** then regaled us with a story involving a nurse, hospital bedside manner and a misunderstood patient request.

HORST TEBBE gave a eulogy for **THOMAS MARTIN MCGUIRE**, August 16, 1927-May 2, 2024.

TOM and I first met when I picked him up with my Call-A-Ride car early one morning seven or eight years ago. He was on his way, as he was three times during each week, to spend the day with his wife LV at the memory unit of Nathaniel Witherell.

I have spoken to you about asking open-ended questions of our riders, in order to get a conversation going. Well, with **TOM**, I did not get a chance to do that. We just started talking, on an incredibly wide set of topics:

Management of companies
Astrophysics
Politics here and in countries around the world
His latest development project
Art and architecture
Personal development
Countries we had visited
Religion
Global Warming
Etc., etc.!!

On each topic, **TOM** was well-informed and had deeply thought-out opinions. It was such an adventure to talk with him! I really looked forward to every chance to drive him to and from the Witherell!

Once, I remember, we were so deep in the weeds on some subject as we were coming up to an intersection, that, while I did look both ways before proceeding, I completely missed that there was a traffic light, and it was red. Got a call from the Chief of Police, who saw the whole thing.

TOM was living with one of his daughters, and was pretty much house-bound. We did talk about RMA, but he did not express any interest until I offered to

pick him up and drop him off if he would be interested in attending one of our meetings. Boy, was he ever!

He was inducted in September of 2018, and took to our group like a fish to water. I'm sure a whole bunch of you had great chats with Tom during our coffee breaks!

Eventually, he moved to Parsonage Cottage next to the Witherell. He slowed down, and attended less often. It was of course much easier for him to be with LV, and he did spend still more time with her.

As those of you who have read his obit know, he was born into an Irish immigrant family living in New York, graduated from Regis High in New York, went on to Notre Dame and Harvard Business School, managed international operations of several major American companies, and lived for a time in Rio and in Mexico City with his family.

After moving to Greenwich, he was an active member of St. Mary's on the Avenue. He was active in the formation of the Greenwich Catholic School, and the expansion of St. Mary's facilities.

And he was crazy about the Fighting Irish!

Even though he was elderly, he was so alive!

I miss him very much. If you got to know him, I know you do also.

JEFF JUNKER reminded the group that dues are due by May 31, 2024. Dues are now \$125 and can be paid by check made out to the RMA or by Zelle.

Membership Report

PETER STERN reported that attendance was 87 in person, plus eight on Zoom, for a total of 95. Count was by **RICK HOLZ**. Today's greeter was **DON ROTZIEN**. There was one guest: John Ryan, guest of **SKIP AUCH** and **JOHN TONER**. There were five returnees:

JOHN FEBLES from Palm Beach Gardens, FL via Merida, México
PETER TUNLEY from Palm Beach Gardens, FL

JEFF JUNKER from Aarhus, Denmark
LEE LUNDY from San Antonio, TX
TONY FITZPATRICK from Bonita Springs, FL

Nine birthdays were celebrated, with accompaniment by **JIM SANTORA** on the piano:

DAVID	MICHONSKI	73
PAUL	BARBIAN	81
JIM	LOCKHART	78
BOB	PHILLIPS	83
JIM	FISHBEIN	78
JAY	SCHONDORF	87
PETER	CRUIKSHANK	68
MAURICE	KROHN	75
DICK	FRANCK	88

PETER recognized a steadfast Zoom attendee: **DOUG TAYLOR**.

Next came the induction of Ken McAdams, presented by **BOB MORGAN** and **MIKE HAYDEN**. **BOB** gave these nominating remarks:

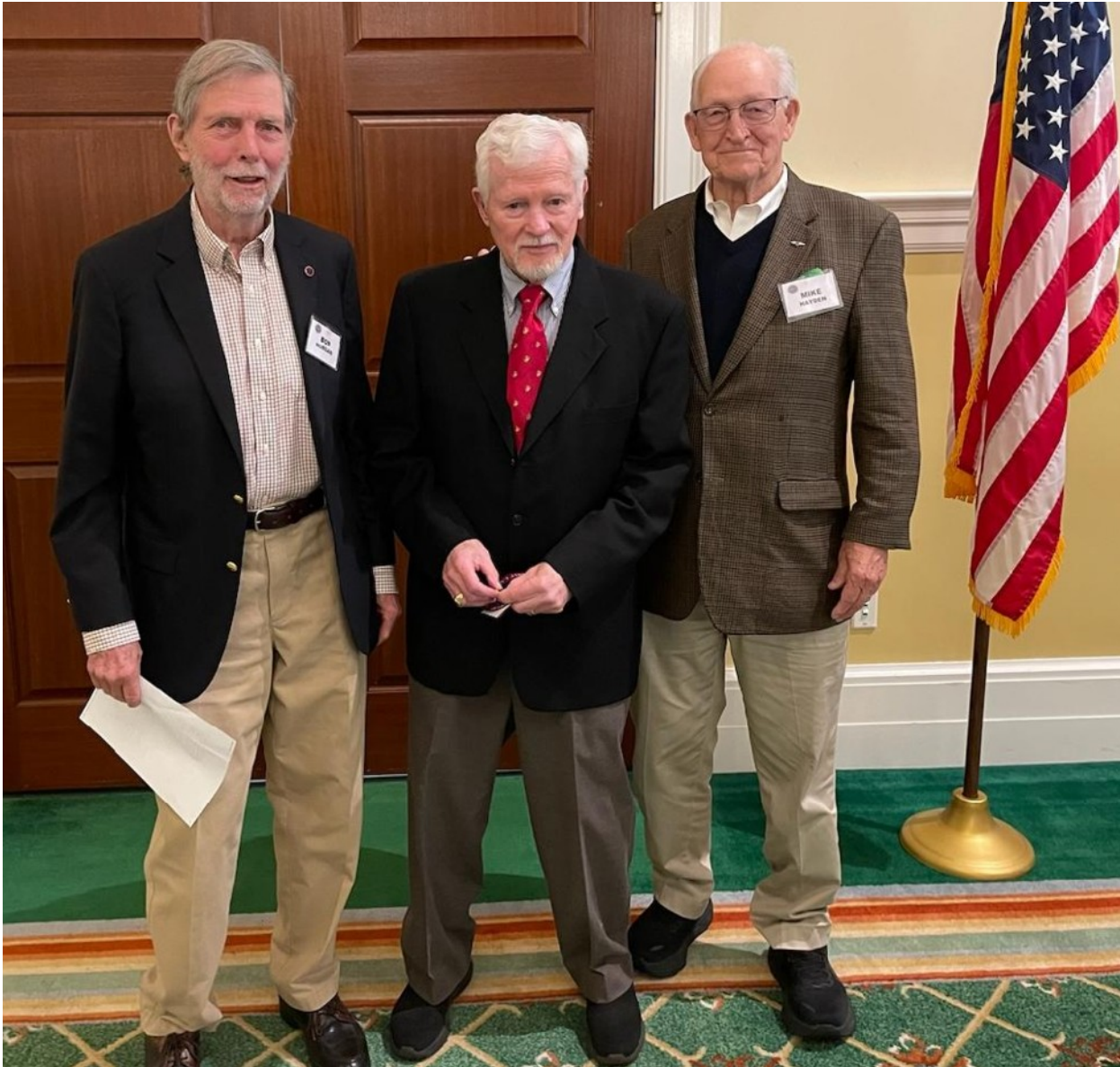
I'm very pleased to nominate my long-time friend Ken McAdams for membership in RMA. We are Yale '58 classmates and continue to be active together in class events. Ken's wife Bing and my wife Ceci are dear friends, so we share a family affair. They recently returned to Greenwich from California.

Ken was born in Lowell, Mass. and raised in Newton. After Yale he joined the US Marine Corps and went on to graduate from OCS and Flight School two years later. Having been awarded his Navy wings he was assigned to "Pappy" Boyington's legendary 'Black-sheep Squadron.' He served in the Corps, Regulars and Reserves, reaching the rank of Major.

Leaving the Corps and signing on with Pan Am, Ken rose to chief pilot of the Business Jet Division where he set three world records in the FanJet Falcon and was personal pilot for Juan Trippe, Pan Am's founder. At Pan Am Ken became friends with our RMA member Captain **MIKE HAYDEN** who is seconding Ken today. Photos of Ken and **MIKE** together in Pan Am uniform were often used in Pan Am promotions.

Transferring back to line flying, Ken rose to chief pilot of the Latin American Division. When Pan Am closed, he formed his own charter firm flying 747's worldwide. Executive positions with other carriers followed as Ken entered the literary world authoring novels about his years high in the skies.

A vote was taken and Ken was unanimously voted in.



Bob Morgan, Ken McAdams, Mike Hayden

Speakers Program

PETER UHRY announced today's speaker:

The Grace Notes is an all-female a cappella group based in Greenwich that has been entertaining and serving the community through song for nearly 60 years. The Grace Notes are volunteers....and the group relies on contributions to carry on their charitable work. Its focus is on bringing music to people at

senior residential homes, adult day centers, and Alzheimer's/dementia facilities, as well as at town events and community festivals, libraries and schools as part of a wider mission to connect and bring people together through music. The group was formed in 1967 as part of the Junior League of Greenwich and became an independent, non-profit organization officially titled "The Therapeutical Music Organization" in 1972, changing to "The Grace Notes" in 1995. The members are women who stem from different backgrounds but are united by their personal love of singing and mutual desire to give back to the community. Dr. Eric Martin has been Music Director since 2008. All members are volunteers. Every member dedicates over 90 hours of rehearsal time during the September through May season, plus at twice-monthly troupings and time spent at home learning music. Every member went through a stringent audition process to be accepted into the group. Members are teachers, authors, artists, business owners, homemakers, working and retired executives, who each have a background in music and singing through school/college and church choirs, community theater, music degrees and training, professional singing and more. The group has ranged in size from small to large, with eight members at some times, to more than 30 during the 1980s when fewer women were working full-time. There are currently nine singers with two more joining this spring. Two current members have been singing in The Grace Notes for over 30 years.

CHARLES ADAMS gave an overview of next week's speaker presentation:

Next week's presentation offers an overview of the Jewish Family Services of Greenwich refugee resettlement program and resettlement volunteering opportunities in the community. JFS of Greenwich is a non-profit social services agency serving the greater Greenwich community. It provides mental health therapy, Jewish-themed programming, senior assistance, and immigration counseling. It is a refugee resettlement agency through HIAS (Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society) and actively partners with local social services agencies to help families with economic challenges. Its counseling services accept most insurance plans. All other services rely on donations from individuals, businesses, foundations and government grants.

Rachel Kornfeld is the chief executive officer of JFS of Greenwich. A licensed clinical social worker and certified school administrator, Rachel has been providing mental health and education services in New York and Connecticut

for over 20 years. She holds a bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of Massachusetts/Amherst, a master's degree in clinical social work from Columbia University, and second master's degree in school building leadership from Mercy College.

Lala Addeo is JFS's director of volunteer services. Born in Baku, Azerbaijan, Lala immigrated to the U.S. with the help of HIAS, JFS, and Temple Shalom in 1990 and brings a unique perspective to the resettlement volunteer effort at JFS. Prior to joining the resettlement team, Lala played an active role as a JFS volunteer and translator for the United for Ukraine program, was Director of Rewards for RecycleBank, and before that a Senior Consultant at Deloitte Consulting. Lala holds a B.S. in Business Administration from Bucknell University and is fluent in Russian and French.

Special Events

Scheduled Events:

- Tonight Bruce Museum 5-6 PM-Non-Opioid Pain Management Symposium, sponsored by Allen Research
- Friday Night Yogi Berra Movie
- Aqueduct & Casino Thursday, June 27

Deadline Event:

- Caramoor Jazz @Lincoln Center Orchestra Wynton Marsalis Saturday, June 22 at 7:00 PM
 - 10 firm signups are needed to get a discount.
 - Last rows. Small theater.
 - \$100 -115 per person
 - Personal cars

Pending

- NY Mets Melody Men

Drawing Board

- Bruce Museum Exhibition Tour
 - "Andy Warhol: small is beautiful".
 - June date TBD
- Caramoor Jazz Festival Saturday, July 27, 12:30 PM
- US Open Legends Tennis
 - August date TBD

- Culinary Institute of America

Coming Soon

- Member interests survey
- 2024 Annual Calendar

DON ROTZIEN advised that the ROMEO lunch scheduled for tomorrow at Tod's Point is cancelled due to inclement weather and will be rescheduled.

Activities Reports

Bridge: RON MURRAY reports: We had 7 players. The results were:

1. **ALEX KOSSEIM** 5460
2. **RON MURRAY** 3470
3. **BRUNO SCHRAGE** 3460

Congratulations to **ALEX** for continuing our streak of first place winners in the 5000 points range.

We play every Wednesday afternoon in the cafe on the ground floor of the Greenwich Library. Lunch is available.

We invite members and guests who are interested in bridge, whether new or experienced players, to join our group. If you think your game is a bit rusty, not to worry - we have some excellent players who would be happy to answer your questions.

Tennis: ANDY HOLMES reported on the year-end luncheon of the RMA tennis group at the Riverside Yacht Club. Sixteen members attended.



Hearts:

Table 1- **AMBROSINO, FAKUNDINY, KNIGHT** and **SCHONDORF**

Four games were played. Each individual won a game. Moonshots by **SCHONDORF, AMBROSINO** and two by **KNIGHT**.

Table 2-**HOLMES, STANKUNAS** and **REICH**.

Three games were played. **HOLMES** won two and **REICH** won one. **HOLMES** and **STANKUNAS** each had one moonshot.

Table 3-**SHULLMAN, CONWAY** and **HOLZ**.

Three games were played. **SHULLMAN** won two and **HOLZ** won one.

No moonshots.

Golf:

There were 16 players. Seven nine holers.

Closest to the pin on #5-No one

Closest to the pin on #7-**GRAN BURGESS**

Longest drive on #8-**BILL GRAD**
Closest to the pin on #15-**JOE MANCINELLI**

Scores under 100:

PAT YUEN
JOE MANCINELLI
CHARLES ADAMS
GRAN BURGESS

WILL MORRISON adjourned the meeting at 10:30 AM.

Today's Speaker



The audience was treated to a compilation of songs performed by the Greenwich-based a cappella group The Grace Notes. The group is made up of 9 members as follows:

Jennifer Andrews
Claire Cohen

Robin Edelston
Anne Marcus
Maggie McGirr
Laura Pavlovich
Katie Stallard
Hannah Tsatsonis
Judy Gilmartin



Among the songs performed were:

1. You Make Me Feel So Young
2. Dream a Little Dream of Me
3. Making Whoopee
4. Big Yellow Taxi
5. Embraceable You
6. I've Got Rhythm
7. A Nightingale Sang In Berkeley Square
8. Beatles Medley
9. Sway
10. Happy Together



The group was then asked for an encore performance which was a rousing rendition of “Sisters.”

A question and answer segment followed:

Q-What’s the most number of parts that you perform?

A-Mostly we perform 4 parts. On occasion we perform 6.

Q-How many hours do you practice?

A-We perform September through May. We practice 2 1/2 hours every Thursday.

Q-How often do you perform?

A-Twice a month

Q-Do you make house calls for shut-ins?

A-We do. We perform as a quartet for house calls due to space limitations.

Q-Do you enter competitions?

A-We are a community and service group. As such we do not enter competitions.

Q-What is your ideal size for the group?

A-We would like to be a little larger so that we have leeway if members get ill or can't make a performance.

Q-How do you recruit?

A-We recruit by word of mouth.

Q-How long does it take to become a member?

A-New members have to learn 2 arrangements and are given two weeks to learn them. Then they have to perform for the group.

Q-Do you always sing a cappella?

A-We sing a cappella 99% of the time.

The full presentation can be viewed by going to the RMA website at <https://greenwichtma.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 →**ARNOLD GORDON**←. 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.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.

Pictures by

Retired Men’s Association of Greenwich, Inc. · 1 West Putnam Avenue ·
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 – wdmorrison@gmail.com
Mondays	11:00 am	Pickleball	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	10 am-12 pm	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	Pat MacCarthy – pmacCarthy415@gmail.com Michael LaGamma – mdlgamma@optonline.net
Friday	Contact Holmes	Indoor Tennis	Andy Holmes - Andyholmes56@gmail.com

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