



# CIGAR BOX BULLETIN

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



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

Chair/Editor: **Joe Mancinelli**

Scribes: **Av Rivel, Arnold Gordon, Ed Farrell, Gerry Lessuk, George Stockbridge, Joe Mancinelli, Chet Risio, Frank Scarpa, Tim Brooks**  
Archivist: **Tad Larrabee** Format: **Jack Cuff, Andrzej Mazurek, Len Carusi**  
Print/Distribution: **Joe Mancinelli**

**VOLUME 68 NUMBER 1 JULY 15, 2020**

**SCRIBE: ARNOLD J. GORDON**

"I must be getting absent minded. Whenever I complain that things aren't what they used to be, I always forget to include myself." George Burns

Just after leaving a 9am special Board meeting, President **RUSS HARDEN** opened the Zoom business meeting at 10:02am. After **HORST TEBBE** entertained us with a much-improved broadcast of the RMA song, **RICK HOLZ** led us in the pledge. **ARNOLD GORDON**, after showing off his new **JERRY SCHWENDEMAN** style haircut, courtesy of Francesca's Salon (his patio), pleaded with those who had anything important to say during the meeting to send him their detailed text to his e-mail address. He then introduced **TOM HEALY**, jokester of the day, who told us about a pastor whose family was growing regularly, a reason for him to ask for a raise; a wise old woman in the congregation reminded him that even when it rains, people wear rubbers.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**RUSS** summarized the deliberations at the earlier Board meeting which focused on whether the usual RMA picnic and Annual Lunch/Dinner should be held, and if any RMA trips should be scheduled. It was decided that there will be no picnic or Annual Lunch this year, and all trips/special events are on hold indefinitely.

**PETER STERN** reported attendance of 68 members. Birthdays: **GEORGE DEY 77, DAN GRIMSICH 89, BOB LUCE 83, NORMAN MASRI 89, BOB BISHOP 86, and JEFF JUNKER 68**. Two members had special birthdays: **JACK RILEY 99** and **JOE MALARA** a magical 100! Cheers and good health to all. **PETER** greeted Hector Arzeno, a guest of **PETER UHRY, HOWARD RICHMAN, and PETER BERG**. Three sponsors! Must be important. An induction was held for candidate Bo Jarnstedt, sponsored, and introduced by **ARNOLD GORDON** with a second by **PETER STERN**. Bo and his wife Natalie have been Greenwich residents for more than 35 years.

A native of Sweden, he graduated from the University of Lund, served in the military there, and obtained an MBA in Marketing at Northwestern University. He had a distinguished career at Pfizer Inc from Group Product Manager in the US, to head of marketing in the UK, to VP Marketing for Pfizer Europe in Brussels. When Pfizer moved its Management Centers back to the global HQ in NYC he assumed the role of VP Marketing for the Pfizer International Division. When Pfizer merged the International and US Pharmaceutical Operations into a Global Business, he remained in charge of Operations until retirement in 2004. BO has visited many countries on nearly all continents during his career. Soon after retirement he volunteered for Greenwich Community Answers until it ceased operations in late 2017. He was Secretary with that organization for several years. He then began volunteering with Call-A-Ride. He also volunteers for an animal welfare organization for cats with which his wife is deeply involved; he spends some 20 hours per week for that cause. A hearty welcome to our newest member.

**MICHAEL AMBROSINO** would appreciate it if members would inform him by e-mail ([brooklynoil@yahoo.com](mailto:brooklynoil@yahoo.com)) of anyone sick and/ or hospitalized so he can announce it at the next meeting under Visiting.

**ARTHUR STAMPLEMAN** invited everyone to attend today's Zoom Webinar speaker program at 11am to hear Dr. Harold Shapiro's talk on "Genetic Engineering: Altering Ourselves and Our Progeny;" see details below. He also described next week's program, a panel discussion on "Greenwich Small Businesses and the Impact of the Pandemic," with accountant Sean Dowling, banker David Moore, restaurateur Caren Vizzo St. Phillip, and retail shop owners Randy and Kimberly Caravella.

**JEFF JUNKER** reported that 194 members had paid their dues and 8 had declined after requesting to be moved to inactive status. VPs on the board will be making individual contact with the 33 remaining people who have not responded to the dues payment request.

INDOOR TENNIS: **ANDY HOLMES** announced that for the first time since mid-March, there are tennis results to report. This past Friday, the winners on Court 1 were **GEOFFREY BURGE** and **JOE MANCINELLI**. The winners on Court 2 were **MIKE SMITH** and newcomer **Pat MacCarthy**. Next week's captain will be **JOE MANCINELLI**.

OUTDOOR TENNIS: **JOHN KNIGHT** reminds everyone that outdoor tennis usually continues at the Loughlin Avenue courts in Cos Cob 9-11am Mondays and Thursdays. However, the Town has already booked the courts for the week of July 19th, so regrettably there will be no RMA outdoor tennis next week.

GOLF: **PAUL CAMPION** happily reported that the golfers have been experiencing fine weather this season, mid-80s and a slight breeze. This past Tuesday, of the 20 participants, most reported firmer greens, and fairways. **MIKE RYAN** and **MICHAEL ROSS** had some booming drives. Another up-tempo feat was a birdie by **PETER TUNLEY** on the 14<sup>th</sup> hole. For Tuesday,

July 21<sup>st</sup>, play will again start at approximately 10:10am; let **PAUL** know by Thursday if you are joining and whether you plan to go 9 or 18 holes (paulcampionm1@optonline.net). He continues to work on getting more tee-time slots from the GRIFF management.

TAI CHI: **WILL MORRISON** reminded everyone that sessions are held on Mondays and Wednesdays at 3pm.

WALKERS: Twelve walkers had a nice walk through Binney Park and Riverside on Thursday. If you want to receive the walkers email notices, please e-mail **TAD LARRABEE** at tadlarra@optonline.net. The group normally walks at 9 AM every Thursday.

### **SPECIAL EVENTS**

No events are currently scheduled and any for the future will depend on the pandemic situation.

### **SPEAKER PROGRAM**

Moderator **ARNOLD GORDON** welcomed everyone and explained how questions could be asked to the speaker following his completed talk. There were 81 viewers at peak attendance. **ARTHUR STAMPLEMAN** introduced Dr. Harold Shapiro, President Emeritus and professor of economics and public affairs at Princeton University whose current scholarly interests include bioethics, science policy, and energy and climate issues. Among other key positions and honors, Dr. Shapiro served President Bill Clinton's administration as Chair of the National Bioethics Advisory Commission and he received the National Academy's Public Welfare Medal in 2012. In his talk on "Genetic Engineering: Altering Ourselves and Our Progeny," he traced the history of genetics from Darwin to the present day, and the many scientific, religious and ethical controversies now surrounding the use of gene therapy and the potential modifications of the human gene through genetic engineering. Are we in danger of reintroducing eugenics, something used by the Nazis for nefarious purposes, and even in the US early in the 20<sup>th</sup> century for misguided policies? Should we use the new gene technologies to: avoid or treat disease and disability for our children, even in the embryo state; alter ourselves, as in selecting our offspring? What about long-term effects to future generations and generally to the gene pool?

Of the many possible uses of genetic engineering, Dr. Shapiro believes that Preimplantation Genetic Diagnosis (PGD, test embryos and discard undesirable ones) used with *in vitro* fertilization may be one of the more acceptable applications. It is tempting to believe that we can improve the human species through such promising hereditary manipulations, which seem easier than social and political approaches. However, "its great risk is that it obscures the power of diversity, the beauty of chance and the virtues of tolerance by illusions of perfectibility." The key question as posed by Dr. Shapiro is "whether Genetic Engineering/Therapy somehow represents a boundary (moral or otherwise) which is a 'step

too far’.” We do not have the answers! For more details on the issues, it is recommended that you review the slides in the Vimeo recording of his presentation on the RMA web site ([www.greenwichrma.org](http://www.greenwichrma.org)) under Speaker Videos. You will also hear some penetrating post-talk questions answered by Dr. Shapiro that broadened the discussion.

### **NEXT WEEK’S SPEAKER**

A panel discussion with accountant Sean Dowling, banker David Moore, restaurateur Caren Vizzo St. Phillip, and retail shop owners Randy and Kimberly Caravella.

“Greenwich Small Businesses and the Impact of the Pandemic,”

**NOTE TO CBB CONTRIBUTORS:** next week’s CBB scribe will be **TIM BROOKS**. Please send a copy of any remarks you want included in the CBB to **TIM** at [tbroo@aol.com](mailto:tbroo@aol.com).

Retired Men's Association of Greenwich, Inc. · 37 Lafayette Place · Greenwich, CT 06830 · USA  
Visit our website at [www.greenwichrma.org](http://www.greenwichrma.org).