



# 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** Website: **Mark Geimer** Format: **Jack Cuff, Andrzej Mazurek, Len Carusi** Print/Distribution: **Joe Mancinelli**

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**SCRIBE: AV RIVEL**

“Kissing spreads germs ‘tis stated’/Kiss me anyway, I’m vaccinated.”

The pre-meeting rendition of **BOB MORGAN’S** RMA fight song was quickly followed by **JERRY** (with a **J**) **SCHWENDEMAN** leading the pledge to our flag and country while the graphic of a waving Old Glory filled the screen.

Preliminaries completed, President **RUSS HARDEN** officially opened the meeting, turning over the mike to **ARNOLD GORDON** for opening comments.

He announced the passing of **DICK FORD** at age 92. If you knew **DICK** and would like to present a memorial, contact Arnold -ajgordo@verizon.net.

Here is a link to **DICK’S** obituary:

<https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/greenwichtime/obituary.aspx?n=albert-raymond-sloan&pid=197343633>

In addition, he informed the group that he had received a letter from his personal physician full of good information re COVID 19 and the Pandemic. **CLICK** on the following links for COVID updates:

Link to Physicians Letter

<https://patch.com/connecticut/across-ct/ct-begins-scheduling-coronavirus-vaccines-75-population>

**ARNOLD** also informed the group of the following link to the Town of Fairfield which provides links to register for a COVID 19 vaccination for all residents of Connecticut.

<https://fairfieldct.org/covidvaccinesurvey?fbclid=IwAR04j33Dfo-HKU8J4Mc-01rIjbSmEG5GH9TqJDw5UaLB2eBGn2Y67IhrEU>

A general discussion of how to get a vaccination followed with members sharing their experiences.

**RICK HOLZ** reported that his wife suffered a delayed reaction a week after her shot. She saw her physician who told her that it was very important to pay attention to reactions and seek medical help.

Lastly **ARNOLD** introduced **BOB CAREY** who relayed a knee-slapper about family finances.

**MEMBERSHIP:** **PETER STERN** gave up the details:

Attendance: 65 + 1 Guest

Guest: Steve Meskers -guest of **PETER BERG & HOLLISTER STURGES**

Rather than standing to be recognized, Steve was given a few minutes to introduce himself. We look forward to seeing more of Steve.

Birthdays: **DENNIS MONSON 73** and **ARN WELLS 73**

“The Birthday Song” was heard.

Welcome: **FRANK SCARPA**, snowbird joining us from sunny Florida.

**TREASURER’S REPORT:** **JEFF JUNKER** reported that he had no treasury activity to report.

**VISITING:** **MICHAEL AMBROSINO** reported that **JIM DEAN** is having cataract surgery on his other eye this week, plans for a speedy recovery later this month.

**MICHAEL** also presented a memorial for **RAY SLOAN** who died in April at age 93, and whose obituary has just become available.

**PROGRAM:** **PETER BERG** gave a heads’ up on today’s speaker, Matthew Ritter, Speaker of the Connecticut House of Representatives. Details below. **JERRY SCHWENDEMAN** reported that next week’s speaker would be Tai Harada, Tony award winning sound designer speaking on “A sound designer’s journey on Broadway” sounds interesting.

### **FUN AND GAMES**

**ANDY HOLMES** Served up the **TENNIS** scores.

Round 1 winners: **TOM HEALY** and **DON BREISMEISTER**,  
**PETER DODGE** and **BRIAN MAHONEY**

Final round winners: **JOE MANCINELLI** and **PETER ORBANOWSKI**  
**BRIAN MAHONEY** and **DON BREISMEISTER \***

\*Leading **TOM HEALY** and **PETER DODGE** when time ran out.

NEXT WEEK'S CAPTAIN: **PETER DODGE**

**WILL MORRISON** calmly presented the **TAI CHI** factoid of the week:

Older adults found that those who practiced tai chi for 12 weeks had a better ability to switch between tasks than those who didn't practice it. They also had more activity in the prefrontal cortex, the area of the brain responsible for higher-level thinking skills.

Contact Will at [wdmorrison@gmail.com](mailto:wdmorrison@gmail.com) with any questions.

**DON CONWAY** shuffled to the fore and gave the **HEARTS** report:

Friday 1/8 Game winners: **DON CONWAY** – 3 games, way to go **DON**.

**MICHAEL AMBROSINO**

**GRANT PERKINS**

Moon shots: **JOHN** and **GRANT** – 2 each, **MICHAEL** 1

Tuesday 1/12 Game winners **ANDY HOLMES** 3 games

**TOM MORONEY** 2

Moon shots: **TOM MORONEY** - 1

**TONY COCCHI** did double duty reporting on **BRIDGE** and **PICKLEBALL**.

**BRIDGE**

First **ED MASTOLONI** 5800

Second **TONY COCCHI** 4920

Third **RON FRIEDMAN** 3800

2 Slams were bid and made by **ED AND TONY**

**PICKLEBALL**

There were 5 players at Christiano park.

We play on Mondays at 1PM.

Anyone interested please contact Tony Cocchi at [anthony.cocchi@lehman.cuny.edu](mailto:anthony.cocchi@lehman.cuny.edu)

**RUSS HARDEN** reported that 8 members played **PLATFORM TENNIS** last week and had a great time not keeping score.

**TAD LARRABEE** strode up to give the **WALKERS** report: Eight Walkers took a stroll down Greenwich Avenue to the Sound and then meandered back through a nearby residential area, an enjoyable 3.7 mile walk while enjoying good conversation. If you wish to be added to our email list, please contact **TAD** at [tadlarra@optonline.net](mailto:tadlarra@optonline.net).

**TODAY'S SPEAKER:** Matthew Ritter, Speaker of the Connecticut House of Representatives. Matt Ritter has politics in his DNA. His grandfather was a Connecticut State Legislator, his grandmother a civil rights activist and his father preceded him, by many years as Speaker of the Connecticut House of Representatives, his mom is a justice of the State Supreme court. He entered politics at age 25 when he was elected to the Hartford City Council. He won his first election by two votes, after a recount and this led to one of his basic tenets of representation, "always return all phone calls and emails from constituents", usually within 24 hours.

He promised to "talk little and answer many questions". In his talk section:

He claimed the "the State Government is NOT Washington"-vast majority of legislators from both parties work together, the rhetoric is civil.

Was optimistic about the state of the State's finances and how it will continue to improve. The pension situation will eventually straighten itself out. New and recent employees have less lucrative packages than veteran employees.

On vaccination he reported that the state was moving well and is slated to receive more doses. The Johnson and Johnson vaccine could be a game changer.

The Q&A covered a gamut of subjects including, the budget, infrastructure, Ritter's role as speaker, legalized sports betting (likely) and legalized recreational marijuana (not so likely). An hour well spent with an elected official.

### **NEXT WEEK'S SPEAKER:**

Tai Harada, Tony award winning sound designer speaking on "A sound designer's journey on Broadway" sounds interesting.

**NOTE TO CBB CONTRIBUTORS:** next week's CBB scribe will be **FRANK SCARPA**. Please send a copy of any remarks you want included in the CBB to **FRANK** at [fjscarpa@optonline.net](mailto:fjscarpa@optonline.net).

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## RMA 2020 CALENDAR

<b>Weekly Repetitive Activities</b>			
<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Contact</b>
Mondays	3:00 to 4:00	Zoom: Better Balance through Tai Chi	Will Morrison @ wdmorrison@gmail.com
Mondays	1:00pm	Outdoor Pickle Ball at Christiano Park	Tony Cocchi @ anthony.cocchi@lehman.cuny.edu
Tuesdays	9:30 to 11:00	Platform Tennis, Loughlin Ave. Cos Cob	James Dean @ jhdeanco@gmail.com
Wednesdays	10:00to 11:00	RMA Weekly Zoom Meeting	Horst Tebbe @ onehorst@optimum.net or Len Carusi @ lencarusi@gmail.com
Wednesdays	1:00 to 3:00	On-Line Bridge	Andre Mazurek @ mazurek.a.g@gmail.com
Wednesdays	3:00 to 4:00	Zoom: Better Balance through Tai Chi	Will Morrison @ wdmorrison@gmail.com
Thursdays	9:00 AM	RMA Walking	Tad Larrabee @ tadlarra@optonline.net
Fridays	1:00 PM	On-Line Hearts	Don Conway @ spiderduck4@gmail.com
Fridays	1:30pm to 3:00pm	Indoor Tennis	Andy Holmes @ andyholmes56@gmail.com
	Various Times TBD	On-Line Hearts	Don Conway @ spiderduck4@gmail.com