

QUEST Q NEWS

A Quest Publication

May 2017

A Note From the Outgoing President:



Hail & Farewell:

When I was in the Army, there was a long-standing tradition known as a “hail and

farewell” ceremony, which basically was a glorified cocktail party that said farewell to the outgoing commander (or other officer), and hail (welcome) to the new incoming commander. Of course

the military typically reassigns its officers every three years or so, insuring a continual stream of “hail and farewell” ceremonies. Well, Quest is in the same position, electing a new president every two or four years, and I am here to say that this is precisely the way we assure the strength and continuity of our organization. And so here I am in my “farewell” message, writing with mixed emotions: sad in some ways (happy in others) to be leaving the Presidency, but more importantly super-delighted to “hail” the arrival of Bob Gottfried, who I am here to say will positively be a superb president. Needless to say, in

the course of the past year while he was Vice-president, he and I have spent a great deal of time together talking about all sorts of Quest-related issues, and I can say honestly that we find ourselves agreeing on almost every issue virtually 100% of the time. If ever there has been a smooth transition, this will surely be it.

I only ask that everyone show him the same wonderful help and cooperation that you have done for me. I know that Quest will continue to grow and be stronger than ever. Hail and farewell!

Quest Council Elections Results

A Note From the President Elect:

After the NEC selected a slate of potential candidates for vacancies on the Council, the following is the newly elected slate.

Officers

Bob Gottfried
President

Marian Friedmann
Vice President

Steve Allen
Treasurer

Ruth Kovner
Secretary

Council Members at Large

Pam Gemelli

Phil Gisser

Bob Hartmann

Eileen Kelly

Frieda Lipp

Jane Lubin

Bob Reiss

It is hard to believe that the spring semester is almost over. We still have the last week of class, the end of year theatrical production and our holiday party this week. At the holiday party, we will have the opportunity to thank Captain Mike for all he has done for Quest, so I hope that we will have a very large turnout.

The newest members, including me, have only experienced Quest under Michael's leadership. I happily accept the responsibility of being your President, but I know that it will be difficult to replicate Michael's accomplishments. I will do my best to represent your interests and ensure that Quest continues to provide quality lifelong learning opportunities in a wide variety of disciplines and continues to offer all members a positive social atmosphere.

Quest would not be possible without the hard work and dedication of so many of our members. I look forward to working with Council officers, at-large Council members, committee chairs and members, coordinators and presenters to ensure that Quest



remains a vibrant, intellectually enriching and fun place to be. If you have a problem, bring it to my attention and I will work to resolve it. I encourage everyone to get involved, especially our newest members. I wish all of you a great summer and look forward to returning in the fall for another great semester of Quest classes.

– Bob Gottfried

Profiles

by Joyce West



Gary Friedland recently retired for the third time from being a NY “Madman” creative director to real estate broker to pet products inventor. He’s a travel addict, recovering artist and otherwise a healthy individual. Bronx-born and now living in Carroll Gardens, Brooklyn, with his wife Marcia (a Quest member for years), Gary has three grandchildren, Sky, Veikko and Eden and is part-time dog sitter for grand dogs.



Renee Woloshin hails from Philadelphia and moved to New York City to attend graduate school at Columbia University. She lived in the City for over thirty years and now resides in Nutley, NJ, which is close enough so that she can still enjoy all that NYC has to offer. She retired from a career in computer systems, working most of that time for a healthcare company. Her interests include art history, theater, ballet.



Judith Meyerowitz is a life-long New Yorker; raised in Brighton Beach until 7, then Forest Hills, then Manhattan. She went to City College and Yeshiva University for her PhD in psychology. She retired from private practice of therapy and psychoanalysis. Her love for photography has given her new inspiration. Some of her work have been show at galleries; for example, Salmagundi Club, Ceres Gallery, Soho Photo, and others.



Gordon Gilbert was born in Washington, DC and raised in San Salvador and Mexico City, gaining fluency in Spanish. He studied architecture and art history and is a registered architect in several states, exhibiting and publishing his work widely. His most recent book is *Transparent Architecture*, available at Amazon and at ORO Editions. Gordon has also designed sets and sculptural objects for New York City dance companies.

Questers Tour Marsden Hartley Exhibit at Met Breuer

by Bob Reiss

Seventeen Quest members took a guided tour of the *Marsden Hartley's Maine* exhibit at the Met Breuer on March 24th. Maine was Hartley’s self-proclaimed spiritual home and this exhibit amply demonstrates his intimate connection with the State. He was, indeed, a native Maine-iac (to use his own term), though with origins inland, not on the more familiar (to us) coastline. Spending a long period of his career in Europe, and strongly influenced there by Cezanne, he developed a new painting style: a sumptuously colored, richly patterned, symbolically coded abstraction. He eventually returned to his origins, and his late Maine paintings ride mood swings reflective of what happens when we revisit the environment in which we were raised. The subjects of these works are scenic.

Our excellent docent, Page Knox, expertly revealed insights into Marsden Hartley that a casual visit to the museum might miss.



Unnatural Election: An Andrea Arroyo Project

by Bob Moore

This past April, Quest’s Law and Order class featured a return of artist Andrea Arroyo who spoke about her collaborative art project, “Unnatural Election,” a project that sprung from Arroyo’s shock at the result of our recent presidential election. Andrea called upon artists all over the world to submit artwork that reflected feelings about the election result.

More than 250 international artists including our own Mailyn Weiss and Carole Abrahams contributed art in diverse media. Some of the material took a humorous view of the result and some were more intense, targeting immigration, the environment, women’s issues, and the famous or infamous Mexican Wall. All of the works displayed were impressive and moving in content, demonstrating great effort. Many of the works are on display in New York, now until the end of May, and Andrea is hoping that they will tour the country in future.

Who's Doing What In and Out of Town

Deborah Yaffe is going to France in June to tour ancient cave art paintings. In France and Spain there are caves from 15,000-30,000 years ago that were painted of animals that are done so well you'd think they were done this year, perfect perspective, etc. Picasso went in to see them and said "we haven't learned anything in 12,000 years". And they're huge, some of them have the whole cave ceiling painted. A tour company that specializes only in archaeological things is running it, and we're going to see the ones in France. The most famous one is Lascaux.

John Hood lead a 45-minute tour of a new exhibition of "Outsider Art" at the American Folk Art Museum. This tour is scheduled for April 29th. John leads tours throughout the year at this museum and he has become an expert and a wonderful tour guide. The tour is free. The museum is located on Columbus Avenue, between 65th and 66th streets.

Myra Nissen is now a major publicist in the field of promotion for "*The Standard Grand*" a new work written by Jay Nocorvo, her son-in-law. The "*Standard Grand*", comes out in April by St.Martins' Press and takes place in the run-down hotel in the Catskills. Advanced reviews have been terrific and it has been compared to Billy Lynn's "*Long Half Time Walk*". "*Deadbeat*" a book of poetry about Nocorvo's father was on the best seller list a few years ago. Myra will be working hard on promoting the new book.

On the weekend of June 24th and 25th Penn South is having an art show which will include works by **Jeanette Himmel** and **Florence Cohen**. The hours will be 1-5 pm in the Community Room at 343 8th Avenue at West 27th Street. All Quest members are invited to come by. Penn South is a limited equity cooperative in Chelsea that is operating since it was built in 1962 for the benefit of people with moderate incomes



Wally Butler's bon voyage as he sets off to Phoenix.

Judy Weis gave a talk and held a book signing on Sunday the 19th of March. The title of the talk and her book was "*Marine Pollution: What Everyone Needs to Know*" and was held at the Hackensack Riverkeeper and Teaneck Conservancy. In addition, on Saturday March 25, she gave a presentation on Salt Marshes at the Long Island Natural History Conference in Brookhaven.

This summer will be a booming success for Chautauqua with so many Questers attending throughout the summer. **Bob** and **Ellen Gottfried** will be there for the full nine week program. **Wayne** and **Susanne Cotter** will be there August 5-11, **Roy Clary** I will be going with Road Scholar from July 31 to August 5. He is revisiting again after having been there with his parents as a child and again with my family about 35 years ago. **Jan** and **Stu Eisler**, **Marian Friedmann**, **Jane Lubin**, **Ellen Shapiro**, **Caroline Thompson** and **Steve Allen** weeks 4-7, **Bob Reiss** and **Debra Gillers** and **Rick Salter** are also going to be there. **Caroline** and **Steve** are arranging a wine and cheese get together every other week on the porch of the Athenaeum Hotel

Lillian Scheinblum will be spending time in Portugal. She plans on sailing the Douro River as well as travelling through areas of Spain for 10 days in July. Then it's Chautauqua with **Joyce West** who is a regular attendee at the Institute for the last week or the summer.

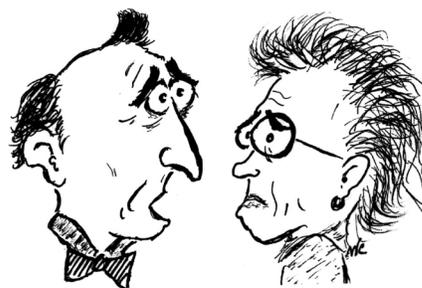
On a dreary Saturday morning in April, professional students **Glenn Johnston** and **Sandy Frank** attended One Day University to hear Professor Joseph Luzzi's talk on *The Presidential Library: Books that shaped Washington, Jefferson, Lincoln, FDR, JFK and Obama*. Discussed was the premise that good readers make good Presidents as well as what literary texts illuminate these leaders. Professor Luzzi, discussed how presidential action and presidential reading are intimately linked, as he explored the momentous events in these presidents' lives in light of the books that inspired their thoughts and guided their actions. A morning well spent!

The Galway International Arts Festival in Ireland this summer will be the destination for **Betty Farber**, **Myra Nissen**, **Carolyn** and **Pete McGuire**, **Stella** and **Leonard Gold**, **Dolores Raeben** and **Sheryl Harawitz**. In addition to the daily theatre and music performances, they will enjoy day trips to the scenic west of Ireland. Also they're meeting up with our CWE resident playwright Seamus Scanlon.

Bob Hartmann, **Leslie Goldman** and **Pam Gemelli** will be going with Road Scholar to the Shaw Festival in Niagara Falls in August. Others will probably join them.

Q-Toon

by W. Cotter



"Help! Steve Allen just told me a five-year-old could run my PowerPoint presentation. Do you know any five-year-old children?"

Creative Corner

April is National Poetry Month and Betty Farber has been published in Sanctuary, a book of poetry. Here is one of her poems:

I Hear a Poem

by Betty Farber

I hear a poem
Walking the noisy city streets:
Sirens screaming, Bus horns blaring,
Trucks beeping a warning
Over and Over, backing up,
Friends shouting to each other
Or talking on cellphones.

When on the edge of sleep
I listen to the city sounds
And am content. Life is out
there,
The world is working as it
should.
Before my visit to a quiet
country town
I plan to tape the city sounds
To play when sleep eludes me,
So that I will feel safe and at home
Though I hear nothing but the owl's
hoot.

Whimsy

Sung by Julie Andrews at her Birthday celebration (to the tune of "My Favorite Things")

Botox and nose drops and needles for knitting,
Walkers and handrails and new denture fittings
Bundles of letters all tied up in string,
These are a few of my favorite things.

Cadillacs and cataracts, hearing aids and glasses,
Polident and Fixodent and false teeth in glasses,
Pacemakers, golf carts and porches with swings,
These are a few of my favorite things.

When the pipes leak
When the bones creak,
When the knees go bad,
I simply remember my favorite things,
And then I don't feel so bad.

Exciting Travel Update

by Carolyn & Michael

Our Quest Travel program is rolling (and flying) along. In just a few weeks a group of fifteen of us will be off for two weeks in Malta and Sicily. And then in July and August two groups will be traveling: one to Ireland for the Galway Arts Festival (late July), and a smaller group is heading north to Niagara-on-the-Lake for the Shaw Festival.

Next up are two Road Scholar trips for our winter break in 2018. First, four of us have already signed up for a Road Scholar week (January 14–19) in Palm Springs, California. The cost is about \$1,150 pp – plus airfare). Others have expressed interest in a Road Scholar trip to Oaxaca & Puebla, twelve days in two of Mexico's southern states offering a blend of the ancient and the modern (around \$2,500

pp – plus airfare). If you are interested in either of these trips please contact Michael or Carolyn (carolyn8912@aol.com / captmike46@aol.com). Space is limited; if you are interested please let us know ASAP.

Finally, under the heading of planning ahead, we are contemplating a special trip next May 26th to June 1st(2018) to beautiful Croatia (Dubrovnik, Korcula, Split, Hvar, and more) – We have contracted to charter the entire small cruise ship for QUEST alone! To do that, we'd need a minimum of 20 people, at a cost of around \$2,600 per person (double)... (the more people we have the lower the cost). If you think you might be interested, please let Carolyn or Michael know right away. Having our own cruise ship might really provide the experience of a lifetime! But we need to move quickly!



In the middle of freezing winter Bob and Mac decided to go and freeze in the Antarctica... brrrrr.

When the joints ache,
When the hips break,
When the eyes grow dim,
Then I remember the great life I've had,
And then I don't feel so bad.

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