

QNEWS DIGITAL

A Quest Publication

Issue 8

Mid-September 2020

A Note From the President

To all our returning Quest members, welcome back, and to our new Zoom members, we are happy you have joined us.

Our first week back was great, and we all owe a debt of gratitude to the members of our Online Learning Committee under the leadership of Bob Reiss, Ruth Ward, and Wayne Cotter.

There will be a special memorial tribute to our former members: David Abrahams, Donna Rubens, and Sondra Southwell; and to our Office Manager, Barbara Bianco on Friday September 25 at 1:00 pm. Please see Next Week at Quest for the link to log in.

Our General Meeting has been set for Friday November 20 at 2:00 pm. At that time, our courses for the Spring will be introduced.

For those who like to anticipate the future, our Spring calendar will have us starting on Monday February 1, our Spring break will be from March 29 to April 1, and our last day of classes will be Thursday May 15.

– Bob Gottfried

A Few Notes

The travel committee hasn't given up. We are waiting for the "all clear" and then we'll get a Wine Tasting Day out in November. We'll get a van from the city for the 45 mile journey to the Warwick NY wineries. Stay tuned.

Please be aware of our members who live alone. They need phone calls and check-ups periodically. Tune in to them.

Memorial for our members who have passed will be held on September 25th via Zoom.

Congratulations to our Zoom Team for doing a great job in getting our classes to us.

CultureQuest Virtual Tours for Fall

Sept 25 **Tenement Museum** *"The Rogarshevsky Family"* Exhibition

Oct 9 **Smithsonian National Museum of Asian Art** *"Harmony in Blue and Gold: The Peacock Room"* by James McNeill Whistler

Oct 23 **Guggenheim Museum** *"Vasily Kandinsky"* Exhibition

Nov 6 **Metropolitan Museum of Art** *"Gerhard Richter: Painting After All"* Exhibition

Nov 20 **Jewish Museum** *"Edith Halpert and the Rise of American Art"* Exhibition

Each tour will be interactive led by a guide from the museum using Zoom or similar platform. Renee Woloshin, Chair; Linda Downs, Vice Chair; Bob Reiss, Chair Emeritus; Deborah Yaffe; Estelle Selzer; Madeleine Brecher; John Hood; Dena Kerren

Quest Mixed Bag Book Group

We are so excited that the book group will be starting again in September with a new name and a new co-leader, Diane Crothers. We know this is going to be another great year of enriching book discussions. We are looking forward to seeing you in zoom.

Sincerely,

Diane Crothers and **Mary Ellen McKenna**

Sept 29 *"The House in Paris"* by Elizabeth Bowen

Oct 27 *"How Much of These Hills is Gold"* by C. Pam Zhang

Dec 8 *"The Shadow King"* by Maaza Mengiste

Recipes

Now that we're tired of eating out and gaining a ton of weight, we might want to cook a bit. So here are a few "light" bite recipes.

For a Light Lunch

Frieda Lipp has discovered two simple lunch recipes.

1. Ingredients: hard boiled egg, mashed avocado, smoked salmon. Simply layer avocado, salmon and sliced egg — voila

2. Ingredients: any cooked squash or several cooked squashes combined; grated gorgonzola. Simply heat squash and grated cheese — voila

Unfortunately... both would be lovely with some French or Italian bread.

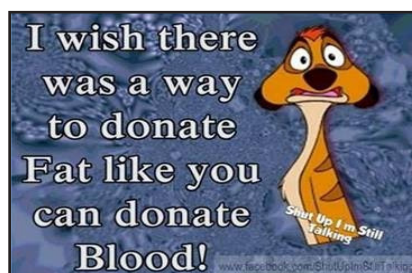
Thin Crispy Cookies

From **Deborah Yaffe**

In one bowl combine: 2 cups flour; Plain or flavored yogurt – enough to make a smooth mixture but it will be heavy; 13 oz. jar of raspberry jam (or strawberry, blueberry, etc.). Add milk to make a smooth batter. Optional: Add whatever comes to mind, finely chopped nuts, small pieces of fruit. Drop by tablespoons onto cookie sheet (I like to use parchment baking sheets instead of greasing the pan). Leave room for them to spread out as they bake. Bake for 10-15 minutes at 350 degrees.

Panzanella

From **Frank Montaturo**. Take some thick slices of a good crusty bread... a day or two old. Tear into a bowl. Sprinkle with cool water...don't sog it! Mix it up. Add some good late summer tomatoes... cubed. Tear some basil and add that too. A sprinkle of salt and pepper and olive oil to taste. A couple of tablespoons of red wine vinegar to taste. Stir together. Let it sit to absorb flavors. Mangia! Really a "salad".



**I'm giving up eating chocolate for a month.
Sorry, bad punctuation.
I'm giving up. Eating chocolate for a month.**

Bar Humor For English Language Learners

submitted by Lowell Berman

A dangling participle walks into a bar. Enjoying a cocktail and chatting with the bartender, the evening passes pleasantly.

A bar was walked into by the passive voice.

An oxymoron walked into a bar, and the silence was deafening.

Two quotation marks walk into a "bar."

A malapropism walks into a bar, looking for all intensive purposes like a wolf in cheap clothing, muttering epitaphs and casting dispersions on his magnificent other, who takes him for granite.

Papyrus and Comic Sans walk into a bar. The bartender says, "Get out—we don't serve your type."

A mixed metaphor walks into a bar, seeing the handwriting on the wall but hoping to nip it in the bud.

Three intransitive verbs walk into a bar. They sit. They converse. They depart.

A synonym strolls into a tavern.

At the end of the day, a cliché walks into a bar—fresh as a daisy, cute as a button, and sharp as a tack.

A figure of speech literally walks into a bar and ends up getting figuratively hammered.

The subjunctive would have walked into a bar, had it only known.

The past, present, and future walked into a bar. It was tense.

A verb walks into a bar, sees a beautiful noun, and suggests they conjugate. The noun declines.

An Oxford comma walks into a bar, where it spends the evening watching the television getting drunk and smoking cigars.

Creative Corner

I Love Mysteries

by Betty Farber

Though biographies and histories
Are books on which I binge
My favorite tomes are mysteries
Though violence makes me cringe.

When the detective looks for facts
Behind a grisly killing
Done with a knife or with an axe
With actions that are chilling,

Murder makes me feel alive
I'm so ashamed to mention
All my senses seem to thrive
I'm in a new dimension.

Best of all, the great appeal
That I cannot resist:
Secrets often are revealed
In a most surprising twist!

The resolution is so clear
No hiding or pretending,
And all protagonists will hear
The final happy ending.

These mysteries inform my life
And teach me, at this age,
When I myself encounter strife,
To smile and turn the page.

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Questers Help Get Out the Vote

by Michael Wellner

Here is a statistic of which you might not be aware: in the last Presidential election (2016), Donald Trump received approximately 63 million votes; Hillary Clinton about 66 million; *and 100 million people didn't vote at all!* And a large proportion of those hundred million are young people. So, with that in mind, several Quest members are working hard to get (at least a substantial portion of) them to vote this time around. In fact, both candidates have stated that this is "the most important election of our lifetime!" And many of us would surely agree.

There are at least two efforts underway. The first, in which several Questers are participating, involves writing postcards and letters to registered voters, emphasizing the importance of actually voting in the upcoming election.

The second is spearheaded by a non-profit group to which one of our Quest members, Marjorie Singer, introduced me, called **Feel Good Voting**. Their efforts are aimed specifically at young people *who are not registered to vote*, whom they reach using "influencers." These influencers have an unbelievable reach via electronic messaging apps such as TikTok and Instagram. Indeed, one of these influencers is a college student whose specialty is food preparation, and he has *one million followers* (hard to fathom!). If he can get even one percent of his followers to register to vote, that's *10,000 votes* — greater than Trump's margin of victory in some states! You can easily Google "Feel Good Voting" and watch a fascinating 3-minute video.

We can all agree that our democracy will be stronger if everyone votes! So whatever you're doing, keep up the good work!

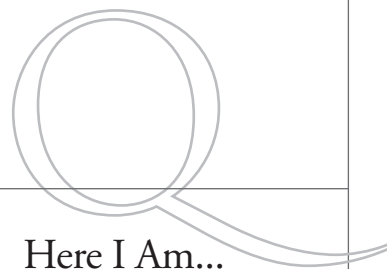
Bits & Pieces

As a result of **Steve Rubin's** article in the last issue of QNEWS, a few people followed up and seem to be successful in getting money back. **Betty Farber's** daughter followed up and Betty will be reimbursed an unknown amount (it could be \$5 but who knows). We just got this from **Donna Basile**. My nephew and a friend of mine are owed money, so they filled out the claim form. Fingers crossed!

Estelle Selzer: Since the pandemic started I have been doing a daily 30-minute Morning Stretch class online via Zoom. It is offered by Senior Planet and the teacher is fabulous. Most of the class is done in a chair and can be adapted to each person's strengths and weaknesses. In addition Cas teaches a Fit Fusion (cardio and strength) class twice a week and a weekly Tai Chi class. I highly recommend trying them out. For more info: Seniorplanet.org



Roy Clary, Gordon Gilbert and Arlynn Greenbaum at Gordon's beautiful home in South Fallsburg in the Catskills.



1. Bobbie Gold

Marketplace

We are instituting a new concept for Questers. For those of you who have

various crafts, paintings, memorabilia, we will post them in the “marketplace” and include your email address. If anyone is

interested in purchasing your items, they can get in touch with you directly.



Deborah Yaffee: I make fabric tote bags, wallets, travel bags.
dkyaffee@yahoo.com

Stan Lieblein: These pictures were taken of Judy Garland and Mickey Rooney on August 23rd, 1939 while in New York. One was taken and published on the cover of the New York Daily News Sunday insert on October 29, 1939. thenybee@gmail.com

Profiles

Every semester Quest welcomes new members to our community. The Fall of 2019 was no exception *but* the Spring semester was very short due to the Covid 19. We didn't get a chance to meet our new members and recognize them in person. QNEWS has decided to create a *Profiles* section to introduce our new members (with photos). This issue we only received four but we hope to have many more in the future issues. Welcome



Joel Mittler is a retired Professor of Special Education with interests in special education policy, the use of assistive technology, and teacher preparation. He lives by the ocean in Long Beach, NY with his wife, Sari where he spends his time surfing... the web, of course.



Andrea Irving is proud to be an Upper West Sider. She is previously from Belfast, Northern Ireland. Retired as a full-time RN from Beth Israel Hospital in 2019. She is now back working per diem in adult psychiatry. Joining Quest September 2019, she is now totally addicted!



Adrienne Cosner joined Quest in the Fall, 2019. She worked as a Special Education teacher and administrator for 30 years. She's developed many hobbies which include painting, museum hopping, theater, and traveling. Adrienne lives in Manhattan and is interested in being more active and meeting new people.

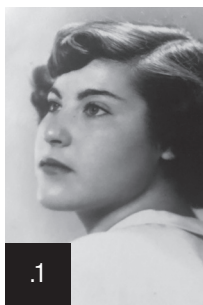


Marlene Lamm Spigner is a native New Yorker and adores living in Manhattan. She is a windowsill gardener, nurturing herbs and Meyer lemon plant. She is the former Katharine Gibbs director of Admissions and Director of Continuing Ed Lawrence-Cedarhurst Public Schools. Dick Cavett Show.

Who Am I?

We turned back the hands of time and sent high school & college pictures and now expect you to recognize who we are... Can you guess?

The answer is on page three.



Thoughts by Howard Seeman

As Freud put it: “We need to do *love* and *work*”. I retired full time in 2000, twenty years ago! It was great to finally have a lot of room in my appointment book, and not set my alarm clock... but the challenge of “emptiness” became a “job,” no longer filled in by my paid-jobs. Who knew that this would be a challenge? I thought I would just enjoy and relax. But, such is “empty,” especially of close people — that I had to keep and build.

Well, now 20 years into doing this, I am doing pretty well at this new happiness/meaningful life job: I found that not just *love*, but *Loving*, does it; and not just *work*, but work that feels like helping, of value to others. Such makes retirement equal freedom to do meaningfulness, close to others, and even tickle others, and laughing is also great health food.

**DOES ANYONE KNOW
WHICH PAGE OF THE
BIBLE EXPLAINS HOW TO
TURN WATER INTO WINE?
ASKING FOR A FRIEND.**

Lyrics Quiz

from Betty Farber and Lucille Granfort

1. Put the blame on _____ boys.
2. _____ is the face in the misty light.
3. _____ you picked a fine time to leave me
4. In her sweet little _____ blue gown
5. _____ I love you. I'm always thinking of you.
6. _____ in the sky with diamonds.
7. Hey there, _____ girl.
8. Goodnight _____ . I'll see you in my dreams.
9. Hello _____. It's so nice to have you back where you belong.
10. Whatever _____ wants, _____ gets.
11. For it was _____ , long before the fashions came.

Answers at the bottom of the page

Save the Post Office



Our Quest to save the 23rd Street post office from DeJoy: Madeleine Brecher, Jane Lubin, and Beverly Francus.



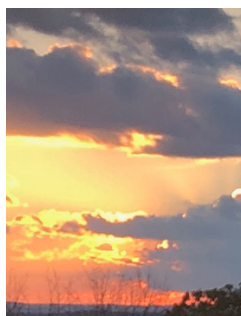
There were almost 50 people in Bradley Beach NJ at the rally Ilene Winkler organized and great support from people driving by. A first for this town.

Lyric Quiz: 1. Mame; 2. Laura; 3. Lucille; 4. Alice; 5. Rose Marie; 6. Lucy; 7. Georgy; 8. Irene; 9. Dolly; 10. Lola; 11. Mary

Who's Doing What



Roy Clary: I am spending two weeks in the Shawangunk Mountains near Ellenville NY. Here is sunset from my mountain cottage. I am vacationing on Mount Meenagha Road in Cragmoor in Ulster County. Lots of views and lots of deer. Have also discovered the remains of the Delaware Hudson



Canal. Ellenville became a thriving town in the 1800's because of shipping on the canal. Only remnants of the canal remain.

Arlene Hajinlian: has been enjoying her 'treehouse' condo at Chautauqua since mid June, and will stay to enjoy autumn as well. Despite CHQ's 9 week live programming being all online and virtual this summer, there's been plenty to enjoy in beautiful northwest NY State. Kayaking, sailing, farm fruit picking, playing chamber music, biking, barbecuing, local museums, reading, her dog Scruffy, and a few house guests have made it a spectacular, peaceful, lazy, quiet summer. Not running around taking advantage of the usual lectures, concerts and classes has been a surprisingly welcome change of pace!

Ilene Winkler: For anyone who has Facebook, there is a long profile of me as a breast cancer helpline volunteer on SHARE Cancer Support. We are survivors available to assist anyone dealing with women's cancers, patient, caregiver, family or friends. A wonderful way to spend time during this pandemic.

Bobbie Gold: Just returned from a second visit to Martha's Vineyard. It is a different landscape from my location in the Berkshire Mountains. Nice change of scenery. My daily routine is at least one walk daily and weather permitting I spend an hour or so in my kayak in the late afternoon. The activity is very conducive for a good night's sleep. I have been reading a great deal and so the day goes. Dinner with a glass of wine, watching a performance or a movie and reading a bit more seems to be my evening ritual. I am looking forward to seeing my fellow Questers in person.

Phil Gisser: I'm still hiding out in the woods, but have switched venue from the pine/oak/maple forested Poconos to the Pacific Northwest, where I'm surrounded by giant Douglas firs. Now comfortably ensconced in the West Wing guestroom of Brandes House, my daughter's Frank Lloyd Wright home in Sammamish, Washington, a Seattle suburb. It's in the center of a three-acre plot, so the Corona Virus would have to travel a long distance to get anywhere near. Rarely snows here, so, assuming my stay lasts till Spring, I won't have to face the four-foot drifts that mark the winters in Northeastern Pennsylvania.

This photo is the scene from my window. The trunk of the fir tree in the foreground is about four feet in diameter with an age estimated at somewhere between 350 and 700 years.



David Bernard: We are in Warren, Vermont, a tiny, 240-year-old Vermont village where time has stood still. Old country general store, Chateau and Relais vintage Pitcher Inn, post office, super library, gardens, farmers' market, horse farms, cows, sheep, chickens and, being viewed mainly as a skiing venue, very few visitors in the summer! An incredible golf course for me and amazing views when hiking the Long Trail and walking dirt roads. Good

places to eat... outdoors only this summer!

Greenest of Mountains, incredible cloud formations and perfect temperatures. Quiet, pristine and serene. Our Garden of Eden. Only traffic is a cow crossing a dirt road to be milked!

Every summer our kids and grandkids from Marin County, CA and Manhattan come to join us. It is truly our very, very, very special family place. They could not be kept away, even with COVID! All the more precious this year!

Frank Montaturo: Aside from an occasional shopping trip... to Astoria... to Aldi's either on West 231 Street or East Harlem or West 207 and Broadway (don't ask!)... or soon perhaps out to Jackson Heights to the Patel Brothers... or my daily airing either in Central or Riverside Park... my movements are fairly restricted. I am pressing for us to venture out to Brighton Beach to walk the boardwalk, to wet my feet, to buy Russian black bread and jams, etc... but have so far not been successful.

I am not bored. I have been engaged in a years-long project of uploading my old slides. Covid19 gave me the impetus I needed to wind this up. I have reached 2004!

And each day for the past 146 days... I have chosen one image from all those years to send to friends and acquaintances. This *Photos in a Time of Virus* project has taken on quite a life of its own. At some point I will gather a number of them into a volume to share with those who've suffered through this Project with me.

I just bought four slim volumes on different aspects of Paris in preparation for my first trip (whenever that will be!) in 25 years. I drool already!

Howard Einbinder: We own a small cottage that has a beautiful outdoor porch surrounded by tons of trees and gardens. It is a community of 70 units, all individually owned and separate from their neighbors. We have a swimming pool, social hall with Saturday night entertainment, community garden and other facilities. The town of Peekskill is close by.