

# QNEWS Q DIGITAL

A Quest Publication

Issue 11

December 2020

## A Note From the President

It is hard to believe that we have reached the last week of the semester. Quest has been a lifeline for many of our members, including me. We have been lucky to have so many interesting and enjoyable presentations to view via Zoom. Our presenters, coordinators, and the Online Learning Committee all deserve our thanks for a job well done, as do all

our committee chairs and members. Although Quest will not be in formal session for the rest of December and all of January, there will be special programs, and the ability to meet our friends online. More details of these will follow from Sheryl Harawitz, who has been instrumental in making this happen. You have all received next semester's schedule, and I hope you

will return to Quest for Spring 2021. You should be receiving dues statements later this month. Please promptly follow the instructions on the email you receive, and renew your membership. I look forward to seeing you on Zoom, and in person next Fall. Happy Holidays!

– Bob Gottfried

## Serving on One of Our Committees

Quest is always looking for members to become more involved in the running and administration of our community. Serving on one of our committees is a great way to get involved. If you'd like to be on a committee, please contact the committee chair and express your interest.

### Committee Chairs 2020-2021

Membership: **Nan McNamara**

Curriculum: **Joyce West**

Scheduling: **Linda Downs**

Emergency Response:  
**Michael Wellner**

Technology: **Pete Weis**

Q Review: **Ruth Ward**

Q News: **Carolyn McGuire**

New Members: **Betty Farber  
& Pam Gemelli**

Marketing & Communications:  
**Martha Drezin**

Travel: **Michael Wellner &  
Carolyn McGuire**

Auditing: **David Judlowitz**

Caring: **Eleanor Maurillo &  
Mary Ellen McKenna**

Coffee: **Michael Wellner**

Diversity: **Frieda Lipp**

Culture: **Quest Renee Woloshin**

Social: **Lois Cardillo,  
Marcia Friedland**

## Notes to Remember

As we move forward towards our winter break, there are a few Lunchtime zoom activities for all of us. So mark your calendars.

1. Exploring White Privilege meets from 12:30 to 1:30 on Monday thanks to Diane Crothers, Sheryl Harawitz and Diane Reynolds.
2. The Lunchroom is open for conversation every Tuesday and Thursday from 12:00 to 1:00. Sheryl Harawitz is coordinator.
3. The Quest book club (Mixed Bag Book Club) meets the 2nd Wednesday of the month. from 12:15 to 1:30. The next meeting will be January 13th (*see article by Jan Gollstein*)
4. There will also be a Creativity Lunch session sometime in January organized by Beth Callender. Date will be announced.
5. The recordings of many Zoom presentations will be scheduled to be repeated during the winter break. Watch for dates.

## Mixed Bag Book Club

by Jan Goldstein

**Q**uest Book Club: meets once a month on the second Wednesday of the month from 12:15-1:30 pm.

**Winter Break** January 13: "The Known World" by Edward P. Jones  
This novel gives a provocative and chilling picture of freed Blacks who themselves owned slaves, as well as the Whites who made up their rural world. The psychological portraits of the people who populate this community, while fictional, accurately depict life in Virginia in 1855.

**Spring Semester** The Quest Book Club continues in the spring semester with a wide cross-section of novels by both new and more established authors, from this country and abroad, across a range of genres. The books chosen are not necessarily what you yourself might ordinarily pick up—think of it as a chance to discover something you didn't know you liked! Here's our spring 2021 schedule, still in progress:

**January 13:** "The Known World" by Edward P. Jones

**February 10:** "Beneath a Scarlet Sky" by Mark Sullivan

**March 10:** TBD

**April 14:** "Nervous Conditions" by Tsitsi Dangarembga

**May 12:** "The Body in Question" by Jill Ciment

We hope you'll join us.

## Food & Drink Quiz

Submitted by Betty Farber and Lucille Granfort

1. All that \_\_\_\_\_ and no \_\_\_\_\_, just ain't right like green \_\_\_\_\_
2. Can she bake a \_\_\_\_\_, Billy Boy, Billy Boy?
3. A cup of \_\_\_\_\_, a \_\_\_\_\_ and you
4. \_\_\_\_\_ or two and two for \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_ roasting on an open fire
6. I'm Chiquita \_\_\_\_\_ and I've come to say
7. The night they invented \_\_\_\_\_
8. Oh my darling, oh my darling, oh my darling, \_\_\_\_\_
9. Just an \_\_\_\_\_ for the teacher
10. Or leave a kiss within the cup and I'll not ask for \_\_\_\_\_.

### Answers:

- |                             |               |
|-----------------------------|---------------|
| 1. Meat, Potatoes, Tomatoes | 6. Banana     |
| 2. Cherry Pie               | 7. Champagne  |
| 3. Coffee, Sandwich         | 8. Clementine |
| 4. Tea                      | 9. Apple      |
| 5. Chestnuts                | 10. Wine      |



"You misspelled 'constant criticism.'"

## CultureQuest Virtually Visits the Jewish Museum

by Renee Woloshin

**O**n Friday, November 20th a group of Questers participated in a guided virtual tour of the exhibition *Edith Halpert and the Rise of American Art* at the Jewish Museum. This is the first exhibition devoted to Halpert, a fascinating woman who was the first significant female gallerist in the United States. In 1926, at the age of twenty-six she opened the Downtown Gallery in Greenwich Village where she promoted a diverse group of living American artists. Halpert was socially progressive and regularly presented the works of women, immigrant and Jewish artists. Her gallery was the first mainstream art space in New York City to promote the work of African American artists.

Our docent led us on an interactive tour through this wonderful exhibition where we learned about Halpert's life and saw cutting edge works that had passed through the Downtown Gallery. These included works by Ben Shahn, Stuart Davis, Jacob Lawrence, Charles Sheeler, Georgia O'Keeffe and many other American artists. Edith Halpert was truly a pioneer in the art world who inspired Americans to value the diverse art of their own country.



## A Note From Beth Callender

### Quest Creativity Day



Our last Creativity Day was such a success that we'd like to offer monthly Creativity Lunch sessions starting in Spring 2021. The lunchtime sessions won't replace our annual Creativity Day but will provide a more informal setting for Quest members to show off their talents and learn more about one another. We know our Quest members are creative and we want to showcase more of you!

What are we looking for? The lunch sessions will be presented via Zoom so we're looking for examples of your creativity that can be captured in a photograph, video, recording or performed live in the Zoom session. Here are a few examples but we know there's much more:

- Arts: painting, drawing, sculpture, collage
- Crafts: furniture, jewelry, pottery, clothing, handbags, quilts
- Literature: poetry, prose
- Performance: music, drama, dance, voice
- Misc design: flower arranging, gardens, design, food – surprise us!

## The Last of the Mojitos *by Marian Friedmann*

It is nothing less than sheer delight that my apartment has a small balcony facing due east over the East River. Tomatoes, Sugar Snap peas, enough basil for lots of pesto, string beans and herbs of every description thrive in the sun, not too bothered by the occasionally windy conditions. This year proved to be more of a challenge. Toilet paper got all the short supply news, but vegetable plants and seeds were very hard to come by and in some cases not available at all. My usual resources, the Union Square Market and White Flower Farm were, by the end of March, either closed or out of almost everything edible to grow. To my surprise, delight and skepticism, Amazon and Home Depot came to the rescue albeit not with the amazing variety the nurseries and markets I had been used to dealing with had, but with enough to fill my boxes and planters. The very best new addition came from Home Depot. They had a plant I never tried before. How could I resist buying Mojito Mint? Anyone who has grown mint knows how productive it is. As a result, more leaves were crushed into sugar and rum than I can remember either because of the mint or the rum. What a summer it turned out to be. The very last of the leaves found their way into my kitchen and David's glass one more time just before Thanksgiving. Now comes the long wait for spring.

I am thankful that I, my family and friends have been safe and healthy. Could be the mint! The Covid-19 quarantine and very limited out of the apartment experiences were made more bearable with a little help from this recipe. You can find the steps from snipping to sipping on-line. <https://www.esquire.com/food-drink/drinks/recipes/a3837/mojito-drink-recipe/> Cheers.

**By Esquire Editors February 15, 2017**

You don't need to be a fancy mixologist—just thirsty. Yields:1

### Ingredients

1/2 oz. lime juice (squeezed fresh) that's about ½ lime  
1 tsp. superfine sugar  
3 mint leaves...I like and use more, lots more  
2 oz. white rum  
Club soda or seltzer  
Collins glass... I assure you, any glass will do



## Announcement

**The Curriculum Committee is soliciting course ideas and/or proposals for the Fall 2021 semester. E-mail Joyce West for the course proposal form: [jwjoycewest@gmail.com](mailto:jwjoycewest@gmail.com).**



## Who's Doing What for the Holidays

### Arlynn Greenbaum and Madeleine

**Brecher** donned their masks and spent a stormy morning recently at the Alchemist's Kitchen in Soho looking for a magical CBD cure for post election anxiety.



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**Nannette and Stan Lieblein** will participate in a nationwide family and friends Hanukkah candle lighting zoom event on December 15th. We are using my son-in-law's corporate zoom membership. He will invite all to join and launch the meeting. We will then light candles together.

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### Judith and Pete Weis at Thanksgiving

Reduced family at Thanksgiving dinner—only us and granddaughter Jessie (Barnard, 2023) who lives nearby, to enjoy the meal. We were very thankful to have her. Everyone else stayed home in CA, RI, and CO. Of course, Simba, the African Grey Parrot, who demands a share of everything we eat (and eats far more than you'd expect a one-pound individual) was with us, too.

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**Estelle Selzer:** Every year for Chanukah/Xmas my Ladies Auxiliary Book Club (LABC) meets for latkes and other goodies. At that time we do a holiday grab bag. This year for the first time in probably at least 15 years we are having a Zoom meeting to discuss our book. We picked *Magpie Murders* by Anthony Horowitz because we need something fun and light during this pandemic. We are all buying and sending gifts to the names that one of our members selected. During the meeting we will open our gifts and show them to each other on Zoom.

### Ruth Kovner's Thanksgiving.

2020 has been such a difficult time for families for so many reasons. However, son Matthew, called and invited me and his sister for Thanksgiving but not in the New York City apartment, Rather it was to be upstate this year at his home near Woodstock. Faced with a dilemma. Would it be safe? Will I have to take the train? And return by train? But No, the invitation included door to door service. Such an invitation could not be ignored. Food was great, the turkey was delicious, and Martha Stewart would have approved. We did have a surprise. The pumpkin pie was home-grown. Three of them appeared in their compost pile. Of course, hovering in the air were thoughts of the pandemic. But so far so good. Would we be so lucky at Christmas? Yes, we have plans to go again. Fingers crossed.

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*"Keep in mind,  
even during a pandemic,  
no matter how much  
chocolate you eat,  
your earrings still fit."*

— Andrea Irvine

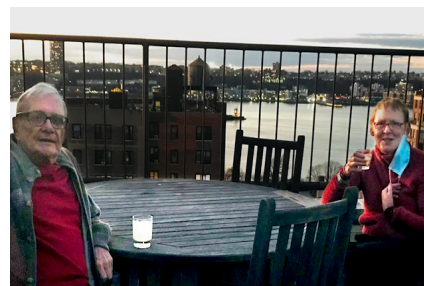
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**Joyce West** is planning two Zoom sessions during the winter break entitled "So many books so little time". Everyone attending is invited to talk about what they're reading now or what they've read in the past and loved. No prep is required. It's fine to read only a short blurb about the book.

### A FIND FROM LOWELL BERMAN

Till December 31, every person in the whole world is the same! There's only one chance every 1,000 years. Your age this year + your year of birth, will total 2020. It is the same for everyone. It's a thousand-year wait!

So happy birthday everybody



**Bob Hartmann and Andrea Irvine** having Thanksgiving cocktails on the rooftop.

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Newlyweds **Steve Rubin and Anna Kunkes** celebrated their third Thanksgiving together, their first as a married couple, by sharing the T-Day cooking duties. Anna took care of the turkey breast and cranberry relish. Steve made green bean casserole, a childhood favorite, and mashed potatoes. They also had dessert, but cannot recall what it was since they neglected to take a picture of it. Oh, well. Wait until next year.

## Q News Staff

### A Quest Publication

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## Can't Wait to Get Vaccinated

*Here's all you need to know to make you a believer in the vaccine. The company Pfizer, which announced a vaccine against Covid-19 is the same company that created Viagra. Therefore, we can fully rely on the announced vaccine because if Pfizer was able to raise the dead, they should certainly be able to protect the living.*

## Announcing a New Social Networking Platform

*by Joel Mittler*

For those of us who miss the social networking opportunities from our accounts on LinkedIn that we used while we were working, we offer a revolutionary new network for retirees: **CheckedIn**

CheckedIn is a new social networking platform that connects users to others that have shared the experience of checking in at their Doctor's office for a recent medical appointment. By using CheckedIn you will:

- Unearth how many forms you will have to fill out when you come for the first time
- Get the secrets of logging onto the Doctor's online portal (or find out what a portal really is?)
- Share your experience of being examined by the Doctor
- Uncover how to avoid being put on hold when you call the office
- Learn what to say to get a quicker appointment
- Find out which of the Doctor's staff to avoid
- Establish your Doctor's height so you can brag to your friends that you are seeing a "Big Man"
- Discover if your Doctor likes to kibbitz and the best topics
- Identify if there are any good magazines to read (pre-COVID) while waiting
- Get wind of the secrets to tie the gown you have to change into
- Ascertain how long it takes for your Doctor to return your calls
- Meet other patients with the same condition who will actually listen to your complaints
- Find someone with whom to have a cup of coffee if you ever finish your appointment

Stay alert (or take a nap first) for the soon-to-be announced opportunity to join CheckedIn (or leave your name and number and someone will get back to you).

## You, Too, May Be Due Money – Part 2

*by Steven Rubin*

**I**n a previous QNews article I wrote about the possibility that New York State is holding money due you from unclaimed checks, benefits, debit cards, bank accounts, and other funds turned over to it.

I understand that, after reading the first article, a number of Questers visited the comptroller's unclaimed funds website <https://www.osc.state.ny.us/unclaimed-funds>. And one of you even reported having recovered a nominal sum.

Most states have unclaimed assets websites. If you ever lived, worked or owned property in a state other than New York, see <https://www.fdic.gov/Bank/individual/failed/unclaimed-property-states> for a list of state websites.

**Old Stocks and Bonds** Ownership of stocks and bonds is now largely represented in book entry or electronic format; years ago paper certificates were issued. If you believe you lost, misplaced or never received an actual stock or bond certificate, contact the company's shareholder relations department.

There is a possibility that the company in which you invested no longer exists, was merged into another company or had a name change. In that case, go to <https://sec.gov/answers/oldcer.htm> for instructions on tracking down your company.

**Treasury Securities** Ownership of Treasury bills, notes and bonds, as well as savings bonds, has been represented in electronic form for many years. The Treasury used to issue such securities in paper form. If you believe you might have lost, misplaced or never received such securities, check out <https://www.treasuryhunt.gov>

**Other Unclaimed Funds** <https://www.usa.gov/unclaimed-money> lists many sources of information on unclaimed funds, including federal tax refunds, monies due depositors from bank failures, company bankruptcies, pensions, insurance companies, and the like.

Happy hunting! Let us know of your success in uncovering funds from any of these sources so that we may share in your joy... if not in your largess.