

# QNEWS Q DIGITAL

A Quest Publication

Issue 17

Mid Summer 2021

## A Note From the President

Hello Questers,

I hope you all enjoyed the July 4th holiday with family, friends, and especially, good cheer.

The Council met this week on Zoom and discussed a number of items that are outlined below. Details on all these issues will be sent to you shortly:

### Calendar for Fall 2021

- Monday, September 13, 2021  
Classes Begin
- Thursday, September 16, 2021  
No Classes (Yom Kippur)
- Friday, November 12, 2021  
Annual Meeting at 2:00 pm
- Wednesday, November 24 & Thursday, November 25, 2021 – No Classes
- Thursday, December 16, 2021  
Classes End

### Calendar for Spring 2022

- Monday, January 31, 2022  
Classes Begin
- Monday, February 21, 2022  
No Classes (Presidents' Day)
- Monday, April 18 – Thursday, April 21, 2022 – Spring Break, No Classes
- Friday, April 29, 2022  
Annual Meeting at 2:00 pm
- Thursday, May 12, 2022  
Classes end

As you know, our current Technology Team will be implementing a fall program aimed at meeting the needs of all our members — both those who intend to come to class in person and those who plan to attend remotely.

Although a few of our planned fall courses will be accessible only at 25

Broadway and a few others will be available only on Zoom, the majority will be taught in a “hybrid” format. The CUNY technical staff has assisted us in the purchase of equipment that will facilitate our presentation of programs in an environment that will accommodate in-person learning while simultaneously allowing members to fully participate in classes from their homes.

Meanwhile, we hope you will continue to attend the Tuesday and Thursday sessions of our Summer Encores program from 10:30 am to noon until the end of July. Fall classes will resume on September 13th.

Stay safe and be well.

– Ruth Ward

## Quest Social Media Policy

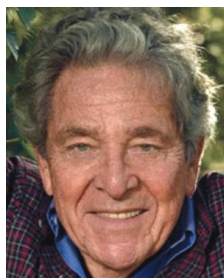
*Here is the Social Media Policy that Council approved at yesterday's meeting.*

Quest is first and foremost a community of members who come together to share ideas and learn from one another. At Quest we encourage the free exchange of ideas and opinions. However, in the interest of maintaining our spirit of community, criticism should always be expressed in a respectful manner. We encourage members to focus their criticism on the content of a discussion and to avoid criticism of the person making the point.

When responding to an existing email, think about whether you are offering a new thought that should be shared with everyone, or if you are just expressing agreement or disagreement. If you want to show support for an idea or a difference of opinion, consider writing to the member individually rather than sharing it with the entire Quest community using reply-to-all. Most Quest members will appreciate fewer emails and less cluttered inboxes.

If you are uncomfortable with any QuestCommunity email, it is easy to delete it. While you always have the option of unsubscribing to QuestCommunity, we hope that most members will want to continue hearing from the large number of diverse voices that comprise our valued community.

## Meet Stephen Rosen



**A** scientist, educator and advocate for scientists, including the 400-odd émigrés from the former Soviet Union for whom he helped find jobs in the United States, Rosen is the kind of person who never gets bored — and uses his interests to benefit his community. He's an author, songwriter, sculptor, carpenter, career consultant and nap devotee: normal days involve one nap, and good days, two. And that's just the start of the list. Rosen celebrated a second bar mitzvah at age 83. He credits his huge variety of interests, his family, his wife, his commitment to exercise, and his humor for the joy he's found in aging. Also useful? "I act immature," he says.

### **Describe your ideal birthday celebration.**

I recently celebrated my 87th birthday, surrounded by my brilliant and beautiful wife Celia Paul, who still treats me as if I were her equal; my loving grandson Jascha; my talented daughter Lisa; and my wonderful sister Barbara.

### **What makes you smile, no matter what?**

I founded a Jewish Humor Group. So I always laugh at my own jokes.

### **What's your earliest Jewish memory?**

Biking to Hebrew School. My first Bar Mitzvah at 13. My most recent Bar Mitzvah was at 83, and it was a great experience!

### **What's one thing you absolutely cannot live without?**

My wife.

### **How do you feel you've changed over the years? What ideas have been most meaningful to you as you've traveled through life?**

I have definitely gotten more respectful of small pleasures: waking up next to my wife, discussing books, current events, public affairs and socializing with friends — cutting myself and them some slack, accepting them as they are.

### **What does the idea of honoring and celebrating aging mean to you?**

Enjoying family, friends, and every waking moment.

*[The foregoing is excerpted from a profile which appeared in, and was written by the Staff of, The Forward.]*

## First Get Together *by Ruth Kovner*

Bryant Park It turned out to be a lovely albeit hot day. **Gary and Marcia Friedland, Paul Adler, Anita Hunter and Shoshana Kagan** as well as **Ruth Kovner** took our seats. The table as well as the restaurant was lovely. The air conditioning was welcome on such a hot day.

This was our first get together in a year and four months. It was our reunion. Catching up was the order of the day. Brunch was enjoyed by all.



**Just once, I want a username and password prompt to say: "close enough." I agree.**

## Q News Staff

*A Quest Publication*

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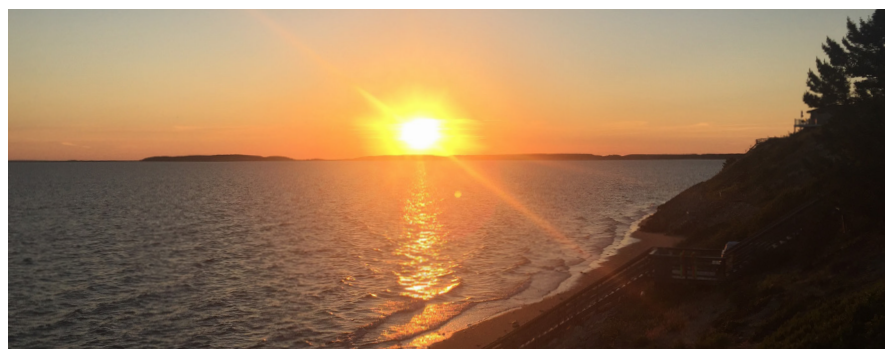
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## Wellfleet, Massachusetts *by Patricia Geehr*



**S**unset from the Dune behind our house on Lt. Island in Wellfleet on Cape Cod. Beautiful weather although more crowded than usual in June. Many times we had to make a right to go left which usually does not happen until August.

## Weis Family Reunion



**Judith and Pete Weis** relaxing in Eastern Long Island. We visited our family in RI (son Eric, daughter-in-law Mandy, and grandkid Violet in late June and were allowed in their house (thanks to vaccines)! Violet has grown so much since we last saw her — she's now 11 and growing up too fast. We are spending most of the time at our summer place in Eastern Long Island, where we bumped into Susan Feldstein at a restaurant.

For the first time in the 47 years we've been coming out, I saw a diamond back terrapin — it was going towards the bay near the beach we usually swim at. Probably a female who had laid eggs and was returning to the water. Very exciting to see at last the only estuarine/salt marsh turtle in this part of the world!

**People who wonder if the glass is half empty or half full miss the point.**

**The glass is refillable.**

**My doctor asked if anyone in my family suffered from mental illness.**

**I said, "No, we all seem to enjoy it."**

## CultureQuest: Peace Corps at 60— Inside the Volunteer Experience, June 15th

by Linda Downs

**C**ultureQuest virtually visited the exhibition *Peace Corps at 60: Inside the Volunteer Experience* at the Katzen Art Museum on the American University campus in Washington, D.C. (See: <https://www.peacecorpsat60.com/>.) This exhibition celebrates the 60th anniversary of the Peace Corps and forecasts plans for a real brick and mortar Museum of the Peace Corps Experience to be built in Washington, D.C.

The presentation was made by Patricia Wand, a Peace Corps volunteer in Columbia in the 1960's and Nicola Dino who served in Somalia in the 1990's. They are the current chair and former chair of the Museum of the Peace Corps Experience, the planning committee for the future museum in Washington, D.C. Patricia and Nicola presented the history of the founding of the Peace Corps during the beginning of the Cold War, the 60 countries that host the volunteers, the language and cultural education provided before serving, the activities carried out such as farming, engineering, domestic skills and many others that assist host communities, as well as the racial barriers that are confronted not only between the American volunteers and host communities but also between the Peace Corps volunteers themselves. Over 230,000 volunteers have served all over the world from the 1961 until the beginning of the COVID epidemic when all the volunteers were evacuated back to the United States.

A video tour of the exhibition *Peace Corps at Sixty* was presented to show the installation of many of the objects brought home by the volunteers and the stories that accompany them. Two Returned Peace Corps volunteers presented the object they donated and shared their wonderful stories of their experiences in Madagascar and Somalia with Quest members.

The exhibition can be seen in person at the Katzen Art Museum by appointment through August. The fully illustrated exhibition catalog is available online or the print version can be ordered from the Katzen Art Museum email: [museum@american.edu](mailto:museum@american.edu).





## Wine, Cheese & QFriends

by Donna K. Ramer

### Red or white? Pear, raspberry or apple cider?

Those are the questions 23 Questers pondered mid-morning after a 90-minute ride on the Little Wine Bus to their first stop in Warwick, NY: the Warwick Valley Winery, Distillery & Orchards.

June 11th was a cool day but the winery, nestled between the picturesque Mt. Eve and Mt. Adam, was resplendent with dozens of rose bushes, which served as the backdrop for tasting a variety of varietals, such as Black Dirt Red (good with pizza, we were told), Dry Rose, Gewürztraminer, and Harvest Moon.

Everyone agreed with founding member Bob Hartmann that we all signed up to spend time with other Questers after well over a year of seeing each other on Zoom. Laura Lopes added that this was her first wine-tasting trip since pre-Covid. Joyce Schlansky said it had been so long since she had some fun “she couldn’t resist and am happy to be with old friends.” Donna Basile was there for nature and conversation, Betty Schoenfeld “loves wine,” and Giuliana Lopes “also wanted to get out of the city.”

After a light lunch of salad, pizza and truffle fries, Ze’eva Cohen headed to the gift shop to pick up her raffle winnings: a bottle of wine of her choice.

We then boarded the Little Wine Bus for the 10-minute ride to the other side of Warwick for our second — and final — stop: the Applewood Winery, Orchards and Cidery, which is famous for their Naked Flock Cider. With wine, cheese, and desserts, we toasted Marian Friedmann’s birthday and Carolyn McGuire for arranging this day in the country, then re-boarded the bus and headed back to the city. Betty Farber summed up the day, saying “it was just so good to see some Quest friends in person.”



## Creative Corner

### EVERY SWING SHOULD HAVE A TREE

by Betty Farber

Every swing should have a tree  
Like this giant pine that’s holding me.  
Head back, my hair can reach  
the ground.

The creaking rope’s the only sound,  
And I’m so far from city swings  
Held up by bars with iron rings  
Like chains to hold, it seems to me  
That every swing should have a tree.

### A Special Omelette

by Barbara Gelber



I had this delicious omlette this morning.  
I seasoned the eggs with sugar, oil, and  
chocolate... and threw in a little flour  
for texture.

**Camping: where you  
spend a small fortune  
to live like a homeless  
person.**

**Being an adult is the  
dumbest thing I have  
ever done.**

## Who's Doing What

Do you knit? Crochet? Are you interested in communicating with other Questers who do? We'd love to hear about your projects and share ours. And possibly even meet in person at 25 Broadway when things settle down. Looking forward to hearing from you, **Ilene Winkler** and **Lorraine Weberg**

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**Stephen Baker** is the author of a recently-published, two-volume work entitled, "The Encyclopedia of Quizzes," which consists of 730 challenging exercises. Volume One is focused on History and Geography. Volume Two has separate chapters on Sports, Art and Architecture, Classical Music, Literature, Language, Gastronomy, Medicine, Animals, Accomplished People, and Onomastics.

The books are available from all major booksellers, including Amazon and Barnes and Noble.

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**Wayne Cotter, Roy Clary and Bob Reiss** at the June 12th Mets-San Diego Padres game at Citi Field. Mets won 4-1 with a strong pitching performance by Marcus Stroman and a home run by Francisco Lindor.

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Quest member **Linda Amster** is quoted extensively in the Sunday, June 13 New York Times. The quotes are in a special section on the Pentagon Papers. Linda has given a couple of fascinating presentations on her experiences with respect to the publication of the Papers.

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**Retirement to do list:  
Wake up. Nailed it!**

**Lucille Granfort** writes our four Boston daughters, our Manhattan daughter, and assorted husbands, joined **Sal** and me for our 65th Wedding Anniversary Luncheon on the North Fork. They brought T-shirts for all that featured our wedding picture. It was a great surprise and lots of fun. Best of all was that we could be together on our special day!



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You just need a little time for a visit to Little Island but we do recommend you book a free ticket and get over to the new Big Apple "happening in the Hudson." You can cover it all in 30 minutes or sit and relax in different venues for wonderful views or stay even longer and pick up a light lunch at the refreshment stand. A highlight would be to attend a performance at the amphitheater so watch the calendar to see what's coming. The four of us had another wonderful little adventure at Little Island! Photo caption: (L to R): **Karen Levin, Michele Mackey, Arlynn Greenbaum, and Madeleine Brecher**



**Ellen and Bob Gottfried** are celebrating their 45th wedding anniversary on July 25. On the weekend of August 5–9 Ellen and Bob will be traveling to Shorewood, Illinois to visit with their son Douglas, their daughter in-law, Kate, and their grandsons Will and Ben. Their sons Bradley and David, and David's wife, Janette, will join them for a weekend birthday celebration of David, Ellen, and Bob's birthdays.

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**Arlynn Greenbaum, Gordon Gilbert, Dena Kerren** and **Roy Clary** at beautiful Kenoza Hall in the Catskills prior to a delicious dinner there on June 30. Earlier in the day, they took a tour of the designer homes Gordon was building and played a hot game of Scrabble.



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Museum of Arts and Design docent and Quester, **Deborah Golomb**, narrated a private tour for **Karen Neuberg** (image next column), **Sheryl Harawitz** and **Donna Ramer** in June. In addition to enjoying the inside scoop on the current exhibits, the foursome spent time with artist-in-resident Yeseul Song and took turns creating "Invisible Sculptures." According to Song, the project "explores a more sensory inclusive view of the world while questioning the meaning of 'the art object'.





## Quest Travel Update

It seems strange in some ways to be talking about travel, with all that has happened in this past year, but we are all trying to get back to some form of normal, and travel is certainly a part of that. So, we on the travel committee have been putting our heads together, and have come up with some ideas for next year (2022). Here they are;

We are confirmed for our long-postponed three-day **"Civil Rights" trip, March 24–27, 2022**. The trip begins in Atlanta. Then coach to Montgomery, AL, to visit the Rosa Parks Museum. Then travel to Selma, followed by a tour of Freedom Park & the 16th Street Baptist Church. Next, we meet with Fair Fight 2020, to discuss the issues of voting rights, and the complex issue of abortion laws in Georgia. Finally, we head to the King Center, followed by an 11:00 o'clock service at the famed Ebenezer Baptist Church,.

We have found a wonderful 11-day, 10-night **River Cruise along the Douro River, in Portugal, May 4–14, 2022**: including nine nights on the riverboat, two at the Sheraton Porto. Included are lectures on the history of Portugal, and the beautiful city of Porto. As we sail we will sample the local wines, sightseeing in the towns, olive oil tastings, and a visit to Salamanca, Spain, a UNESCO World

Heritage Site, and so much more.

We are also thinking about a **Mississippi River Cruise, from New Orleans to Memphis**, in the Spring or Fall next year. Spend a couple of days in New Orleans, then embark on our riverboat adventure heading to Memphis. We will have a wonderful journey filled with historical tales, wonderful views, culinary delights, unique culture, and vibrant music, as we visit towns along the river, ending our trip in Memphis (and Graceland, the home of Elvis Presley). We'll be steeped in Civil War history along the way.

Visit our friendly neighbor to the North, with an **11-day trip from Quebec City to Toronto**. Discover the grand beauty and historical significance of some of the great cities of Eastern Canada: Québec City, Montréal, a cosmopolitan center of culture; Ottawa, the national capital; and Toronto, the largest city in Canada. Compare the distinctive architecture and mood of each city, and enjoy discussions with local experts on the history, culture and art of Canada.

Please let one of us know if you think you'd be interested in one (or more if you like) of these trips, **Michael, Carolyn, Karen and Stan** and we'll take it from there.

### Quest Book Club

*by Jan Goldstein*

The Quest Book Club will be held in person at 25 Broadway in the fall, meeting on the second Wednesday of the month. Here are the reading selections:

**Sept 22** **James McBride** author of *"Deacon King Kong"*. Optional book for Sept 22nd. **Louise Meriweather**, *"My Daddy was a Numbers Runner"*

**Oct 13** **Bernadine Evaristo** author of *"Girl, Woman, Other"*.

**Nov 10** **Maggie O'Farrell** author of *"Hamnet"*.

**Dec 8** **Louise Meriweather** author of *"My Daddy Was a Numbers Runner"*



### Sea-Faring Questers

*by Donna Kramer*

It was a perfect June day for 7 sea-faring Questers — **Stephanie Butler, Judy Hampson, Sheryl Harawitz, Donna Ramer, LinZ Redding, Nancy Richardson, and Ellen Shapiro** — to take a leisurely cruise up the Hudson on the North River Lobster Boat, which left from Pier 81 (42nd St. & 12th Ave). The group stayed aboard for two one-hour tours because, as cruise organizer LinZ said, "it was a treat to be off the city's streets and view the city's remarkable architectural waterfront while snacking on lobster rolls, fish & chips, and beer."

