

# QNEWS Q DIGITAL

A Quest Publication

Issue 28

June 2022

## A Note From the President

**H**ello Questers. Good news! We're in for an exciting Summer Encores program at Quest! Council has taken into consideration your input and has approved a summer schedule of riveting hybrid classes that we believe will engage our valued in-person and home-bound members.

We'll have a total of 15 sessions on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:30 am to noon from June 7 to July 28. From June 7 to July 14 the classes will be hybrid, which of course means we can access them either at 25 Broadway or at home. Then, because CWE needs to do some intensive on-site cleaning, the last four classes from July 19 to July 28 will be held on Zoom only. Look for details each week in the NWAQ.

...And, during our Summer Encores program, the Curriculum Committee is launching QXTRA (acronym for Quest's Something Extra) gatherings designed to strengthen our sense of community with off-site as well as on-site activities.

We have five summer activities planned, all after our Encore presenters have had a few minutes to catch their breath and join us:

- June 9: A trip on the Staten Island Ferry
- June 21: A visit to the National Museum of the Native American
- June 28: An on-site pot-luck lunch (with wine, of course)
- July 7: Lunch at the Hoboken waterfront
- July 14: Visit to the Skyscraper Museum

Then in the fall we will launch new QXTRA courses in Music of the Heart with

Frank Montaturo, the Emily Dickinson Circle with Martha Drezin, and Birth of an Idea with Mary Ann Donnelly, Donna Ramer and Shery Harawitz. In addition, we'll continue our Art Talks with Andrea Irvine and Sheryl Harawitz, our Book Club with Jan Goldstein, Susannah Falk Lewis, and Joan Vreeland, and our Conversations en français with Ruth Ward.

So mark your calendars and look for the details about these and possibly other activities. And, of course, let us know if you have any QXTRA ideas for the summer, fall, or spring. Help us to ensure the continuation of our robust program for all our on-site and at-home participants!!

Warm regards,  
– Ruth Ward

## July Summer Encores

### Tuesdays

**July 5** NO CLASS

**July 12** **Marian Friedmann**, *Antisemitism in the Art World – Antisemitism: Past, Present, Facts, Myths*

**July 19** **Zoom Only** **Judith Weis**, *Animal Cognition – Science and Scientists*

**July 26** **Zoom Only** **Susan Diehl**, *From the Gates of Heaven to the Gates of Hell – Artists and Their Work*

### Thursdays

**July 7** **Judy Hampson**, *The Rise and Fall of the British Empire – The Rise and Fall of the British Empire*

**July 14** **Beth Callender**, *Jeff Bezos – Movers and Shakers*

**July 21** **Zoom Only** **Ellen Gottfried**, *Too Many Girls, Not Enough Women – Foreign Affairs*

**July 28** **Zoom Only** **Roy Clary**, *Henry V [war words] – Oral Interpretation of Poetry*

REMEMBER TO WASH YOUR HANDS

## Croatia: The Return

by Sandy Gordon

**I** made it... It turned out to be a perfect trip in every aspect! Considering the planning was serendipitous, it is amazing my expectations were not only met, but exceeded.

I had studied the Croatian alphabet the weekend prior to leaving for pronunciation and made a flip notebook of vocabulary I might need, ie. bread, salad, check, and figured out that if I divided by the magic number 7, I could quickly convert the Croatian Kuna to dollars. Bags packed and brain functioning, I was ready.

My first shock was that the driver who picked me up at the airport spoke English fluently. I asked him when he had been to the United States, and he answered never. English is taught starting in first grade! Into the trash went the flip notebook! Everyone speaks English!

My second shock was discovering that Dubrovnik is a truly pedestrian city and no taxis! How would I get my luggage to the apartment? Not to worry! There is a career path called luggage carriers, and they whisked both my luggage and myself to the ideally located apartment!

The third shock was discovering that Dubrovnik is a white stone city, as a valley within the ancient walls, with high white marble steps to get "anywhere". The adage "Leave not a stone unused" would apply here. Would I be able to physically withstand the challenge. I found out that this was a perfect way to find out that mountain goats have nothing on me!!!

My apartment location was just off the main walking street, Stradun, and was modern, comfortable, and immediately felt like home! After resting, I decided food was necessary, and I entered the beautiful square, in front of the Bell Tower, as it was marking the hour, and the 12th century St. Blaise Church, many times rebuilt. There was an inviting terraced restaurant, to become my favorite, with people watchers drinking their wine, (49 kuna, or \$7.00), and a creative and delicious menu. I was completely revived and ready for intensive scrutiny of Dubrovnik and its history, and a fascinating history it is, with continuous visual delight. Truly in a photographer's wish list!

The second segment of the trip was aboard a small ship, with accommodation for 38, but which had only 25 guests, for a very personal and warm atmosphere, great crew, energetic host, excellent chef and companionable "co-sailors". No sooner did I settle into my ample cabin and enter the lounging area, then two Canadians, and two Americans swept me into their midst, and our adventure, investigating the ancient towns and ports of Croatia, began. We were Canadian, American, Spanish, Norwegian and German.

Would that the world's nations could create such camaradie! Needless to say, a successful trip, wonderful memories, and expanded knowledge; a perfect balance.

## Creative Corner

### A BEAUTIFUL DAY ON FIRST AVENUE

by Betty Farber

I watch the world go by on First Avenue;  
Not just mothers and fathers pushing prams,  
But skaters, scooters, runners,  
A juggler magically moving a ball in the air,  
A couple carrying home sections  
Of a table they just bought,  
He with the legs, she with the tabletop.  
And crossing First Avenue, on a ninety-degree day  
All of the city in sweltering heat,  
A tall, handsome man, naked to the waist  
Wearing only a pair of khaki shorts  
On his beautiful brown body.  
We greeted each other. Strangers no more.  
I wished him "Good Morning!"  
"Hi Mama" he answered,  
And gave me a thumbs up.  
I said, "Beautiful Day!" and it was  
A beautiful day on First Avenue!

**All you need in the world is love and laughter.  
That's all anybody needs. To have love  
in one hand and laughter in the other.**

— August Wilson

**Who ever came up with the word dentures  
really dropped the ball on calling  
them substitooths.**

**Always focus on the front windshield  
and not the rearview mirror.**

— Colin Powell, politician and diplomat

IN MEMORY  
Stephen R. Baker  
*by Pete Weis*

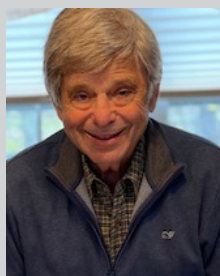
**T**wenty years ago, my department (Anatomy) at Rutgers — New Jersey Medical School was disbanded and several of us were transferred to the Department of Radiology. I went to introduce myself to the chairman of that department, Dr. Stephen Baker. In the department office, the walls were covered with high-quality maps — very different from the usual decor of a clinical department. Then I met Steve. He immediately put me at ease with a warm welcome. This was the beginning of a 20-year friendship.

Steve was not the usual clinical department head. These people tend to be imperious. Steve, on the other hand, was part of rather than head of his department. He was both loved and respected. I soon learned why there were maps adorning the walls. In addition to being a radiologist with an international reputation, Steve had a love of geography. In fact, his dissertation research (PhD in geography at Columbia) was put on permanent hold when he was hired away from Albert Einstein Medical School to chair our department.

When Steve told me that he was going to retire. I gave my usual response: “So what are you going to retire to?” He said he was looking forward to taking courses in the humanities to make up for what he missed while a pre-med student at Wesleyan. So I told him about Quest.

Within a few months, Steve was a member and quickly offered the first (of an eventual four) courses in — what else, Geography!

Steve was very proud of and dedicated to his family. His four daughters have given him 7 grandchildren. At the funeral, Steve was called “a prince among men” and “a mensch.” I shall miss him.



Questers at Citi Field  
*by Wayne Cotter*

**I**n May, a half-dozen hearty Quest members watched the New York Mets beat the St. Louis Cardinals 7–6 on a thrilling walk-off home run by Pete “Polar Bear” Alonso in the bottom of the tenth inning. Pictured in front of the new Tom Seaver statue at Citi Field are (from l. to r.): **Mary Ann Donnelly, Roy Clary, Art Spar, Wayne Cotter, Bob Reiss, and John Davis.**



Adventures in Dining: Angel Punjabi  
*by Frank Montaturo*

**S**o May 20th, to cap off the spring term... a junket out to the fascinating neighborhood of Jackson Heights... our destination... Angel: a Punjabi restaurant with street shed ... decorated with left over Christmas ornaments which I mistook as inspired by our visit. This “adventure” was unique in that our menu was vegetarian. No one missed having chicken or lamb or goat which are also on Angel menu... and maybe will appear on a return trip. I say “Return”... because the entire staff made a point of ensuring our satisfaction. There was even an opportunity to dance! Here below... only a sampling of our dishes!





## Celebrating Our Fathers



Maxwell Fader  
father of **Sybil Cohen**



Irv Zeldman  
father of **Arlynn Greenbaum**



Jere Gurian  
father of **Betty Farber**



Charles Bucholz  
father of **Beverly Francus**



Bernie Gottfried  
father of **Bob Gottfried**



Ted Reiss  
father of **Bob Reiss**



Bill Nadler  
father of **Ellen Gottfried**



Milton Selzer  
father of **Estelle Selzer**



Benjamin Lipp  
father of **Frieda Lipp**

## Celebrating Our Fathers



Saul Shulman  
father of **Judith Weis**



Jerry Jacobson  
father of **June Jacobson**



Dr. Nathan Rudner  
father of **Linda Rothstein**



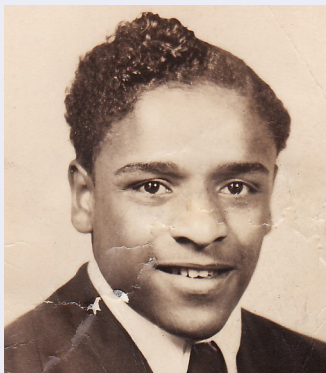
John Weberg  
father of **Lorraine Weberg**



Jack Wishnie  
father of **Madeline Brecher**



Dale Criswell  
father of **Mary Ann Donnelly**



Wallace Byrd  
father of **Richard Byrd**



Samuel J. Friedman  
father of **Ruth Kovner**



Louis Wilson  
father of **Sheilah Serfaty**



## Celebrating Our Fathers



Yehiel Kshepitzki  
father of **Shoshana Kagan**



Lester Rubin  
father of **Steve Rubin**



Joseph Grosso  
father of **Vincent Grosso**



Edward Cotter  
father of **Wayne Cotter**



John Diehl  
father of **Susan Diehl**



Hans Menger  
father of **Loretta Menger**



John (Jack) Brown  
father of **Jennifer Jolly**



Leon Yakoubian  
father of **Mary Beth Yakoubian**



Morton Kammerman  
father of **Yona Rogosin**

## Celebrating Our Fathers



Maurice Wellner  
father of **Michael Wellner**



Cornelis Jacob ten Houten  
father of **Liesje ten Houten**



Charles Woodward  
father of **Margaret Woodward**

## Annual Creativity Event at Quest *by Beth Callender*

## Q News Staff

**I**t's always a treat to see the work of our talented Quest members, but this year was extra special because we were able to attend the Creativity Event in-person for the first time in two years. If you missed the live event, you can still view the creativity video or browse through a document of what was presented. This year's lineup included:

- **Poetry and Prose** readings by **Art Spar, Betty Farber, Dennis Sherman, Helen Saffran, Judith Winn, Ruth Ward,** and **Steve Koenig**
- **Art and Craft** works by **Beth Callender, Brian Bosworth, Deborah Yaffe, Diane Figuero, Gary Friedland, Lorraine Weberg, Marilyn Weiss, Mary Beth Yakoubian, Michael Russo,** and **Yona Rogosin.**
- **Song and Dance** performances by **Andrea Irvine, Frieda Lipp,** and **Ze'eva Cohen**
- **"Wine and Spirits"** skit by **Beth Callender,** starring **Wayne Cotter** with **Bob Gottfried, David Judlowitz, Dena Kerren, Leslie Goldman, Mariann Friedman, Michael Wellner, Susan Diehl,** and **Vincent Grosso.**



Mary Ann Donnelly & Beth Callender

### *A Quest Publication*

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**Patriotism is  
supporting your country  
all the time,  
and your government  
when it deserves it.**

— Mark Twain



# The Acting Workshop

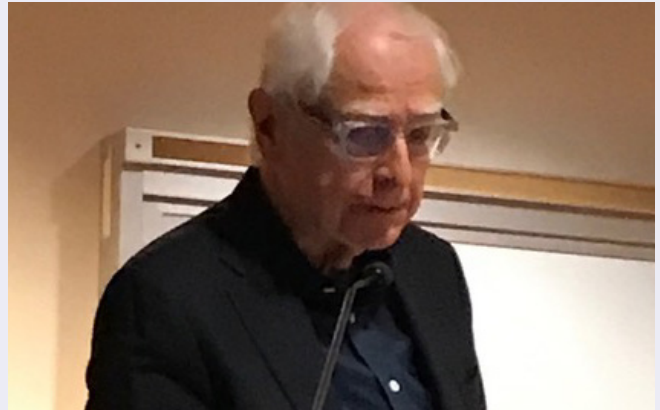
by Andrea Irvine

On Monday, May 9, The Acting Workshop presented *From Serious to Silly... a potpourri of skits and scenes*. The material was drawn from a number of playwrights and authors including Tennessee Williams, A.R. Gurney, Lewis Carroll, Marlo Thomas, Mel Brooks, and Bob and Ray.



The production was directed by **Roy Clary** and the cast included **Ann Barandes, Lois Cardillo, Lenny Leventon, Bryn Meehan, Yona Rogosin, Art Spar, John Spiegel, and Mary Beth Youkoubian.**

The production was thoroughly professional and enjoyable... and there was a hearty and well deserved round of applause.





## Quest Luncheon 13-May-2022

by Michael Wellner



Who ever said that Friday, the 13th was an unlucky day clearly did not know what they were talking about. For on our most recent Friday the 13th, Quest held its usual end-of-the-academic-year luncheon, this time at the absolutely wonderful Lavo restaurant, on 58th & Madison, in the heart of midtown. With nearly 125 in attendance, including Vince Boudreau, CCNY President, and Juan Carlos Mercado, CWE Dean, and several CCNY student Quest (and individual Quest member) scholarship winners, it was truly a picture-perfect day — and here are a few pictures as evidence! Many thanks to **Bob Gottfried, Marian Friedmann, Leslie Goldman, Bob Hartmann, and Michael Wellner** for finding the restaurant, and making all the arrangements. Well done, indeed!





## Quest Luncheon *continued*



REMEMBER TO WASH YOUR HANDS