

QNEWS Q DIGITAL

A Quest Publication

Issue 77

August 2026

A Note From the President

For many of us, summer has always carried a different rhythm. Before calendars filled with meetings, appointments (oh, those doctors visits!) and obligations, summer meant long, unstructured days when time seemed to stretch endlessly. We lay on our backs watching clouds drift across an impossibly blue sky, rode our bicycles until the streetlights flickered on, caught fireflies, read books under shady trees and discovered that some of life's best moments happened when nothing at all was scheduled.

The quieter months are not simply an intermission between semesters; they are an opportunity to regenerate. They invite us to slow our pace, linger over a morning

coffee, take an unplanned walk, sit by the water, daydream. In a world that celebrates constant productivity, there is quiet wisdom in allowing our minds to wander. Creativity often arrives when we stop chasing it. New ideas emerge while sailing on the Sound, tending a garden or listening to birdsong rather than checking another item off a to-do list.

Summer reminds us that learning is not confined to classrooms. Every conversation with a neighbor, every museum visit, every novel read on a porch, every grandchild's question, and every moment of quiet reflection teaches us something new. The experiences we gather during these slower weeks become part of the rich tapestry we

bring back to our lifelong learning community.

When autumn arrives and we return to familiar classrooms, we'll come with sharpened curiosity and renewed energy, fresh perspectives and interesting stories to share. Like our early school days returning to school with tales of summer adventures, we'll carry memories of moments that restored us.

So before another semester begins, give yourself permission to slow down. Watch the clouds. Wander without purpose. Let your imagination roam. Sometimes the most valuable preparation for learning is simply allowing yourself the time to dream.

— Donna Ramer

Three Guest Speakers to be Encored in August by Arlynn Greenbaum

We have an impressive archive of recordings on our website of our distinguished guest lecturers going back to 2020 — but hardly anyone watches them. So we have picked three to show via Zoom in August to watch together followed by a live discussion. The “watch parties” will run from 10:30 am–12 noon and will be moderated by the original host. Here are the details:

August 5: Jesse Green, author of *Shy: The Alarming Outspoken Memoirs of Mary Rodgers*, and former chief theater critic for *The New York Times*. Moderated by **Karen Levin**.

August 12: Peter Gelb, General Manager of the Metropolitan Opera Company. Moderated by **Estelle Selzer**.

August 19: Ross Perlin, author of *Language City: The Fight To Preserve Endangered Mother Tongues*. Moderated by **Bob Reiss**.

Thanks to **Wayne Cotter** for suggesting this idea and to **George Chung** and **Michael Russo** for technical assistance. The Friday before each session, the moderator will send out a reminder with the Zoom link (which will be our usual auditorium link). If you suffer from “Quest withdrawal” in August, this is the ticket for you.

Q Review

REMEMBER Q REVIEW

76 days until deadline

For publication in Quest's literary and arts journal:

Send prose to **Donna Ramer**
donnaramer1@gmail.com

Poetry goes to **Judy Hampson**
judyahampson@gmail.com

Contact **Paul Adler**
adlerworks@verizon.net
to learn how to submit your art

Find guidelines at <https://www.questcontinuednyc.org/q-review/>

Excursion to See The Artwork of Thomas Nast *by Michael Wellner*



On a picture-perfect Wednesday morning, some twenty-two Questers ventured into a somewhat 'cleaned up' Penn Station in New York, for a one-hour New Jersey Transit train ride to beautiful Morristown, New Jersey, to spend some time at the Macculloch Hall Historical Museum, home of the largest collection of the famed political cartoonist Thomas Nast (1840–1902), who, you may recall, played a significant role in bringing down the infamous Tammany Hall leader, Boss Tweed. The museum building was the original home of newly arrived British immigrants George and Louisa Macculloch, who built Macculloch Hall in 1810, in what is now the quite beautiful Morristown, NJ.

After spending time in the museum itself, we took a short walk to an absolutely wonderful nearby Irish pub for lunch, followed by a leisurely stroll thru town to the railroad station for the train ride back to the city.

All in all, an enlightening and delightful day.

Wildlife Heritage Circle: Wildlife Photo(s) of the Month!

The Wildlife Conservation Society newsletter featured one of our own: "**Linda Rothstein** likes to take photos during her trips to the Bronx Zoo and then use them as inspiration for her painting projects! What a wonderful way to celebrate the animals at the Bronx Zoo! Does anyone else do something similar for their visits to our parks or while doing any traveling?"



Suluwesi Hornbill



Kihansi Spray Toad



Chair Yoga

by Lisa Levine

We have been meeting in the lounge opposite the auditorium which has 16 chairs. Typically, more people have been attending than available chairs so we bring in chairs from the auditorium and I sit on the floor in the center of the circle. We stretch, strengthen and balance (space permitting) — all in 20 minutes.



Pot Man Comes Alive in Pawling

by Yona Rogosin

After seeing a “man” made of clay pots at a garden in Provence, I decided to make my own when I returned to the States.

Several attempts later, here is my final creation composed of plastic pots formerly used in my garden. (The clay pots were too heavy and easily broken.)



CultureQuest Update

by Estelle Selzer

The October 16 event will now be a visit to the Transit Museum in Brooklyn, which I am sure Questers will enjoy after hearing **Andy Bata's** presentation on the Subway System.

And a bonus winter break event for opera lovers: **December 28** (evening): Final dress rehearsal of the opera *La Fanciulla del West* at the Metropolitan Opera. Look for more details in future *QNews* and *NWAQ*. And remember to signup only if you intend to attend. There are sure to be waitlists for each of these popular events.

Special August Dates

- 1** World Wide Web Day
Raspberries and Cream Day
- 2** National Sisters Day
- 3** National Watermelon Day
- 4** National Chocolate Chip Cookie Day
National Ice Cream Sundae Day
- 7** Purple Heart Day
- 7** National Lighthouse Day
- 8** International Cat Day
National Pickleball Day
Global Sleep Under the Stars Day
- 9** Book Lovers Day
International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples
- 12** International Youth Day
Vinyl Record Day
- 13** International Left Handers Day
- 17** National Baby Boomers Day
- 19** World Photo Day
- 21** Senior Citizens Day
- 26** Women's Equality Day
- 27** Kiss Me Day

Creative Corner

REMEMBER?®

by Betty Farber

Remember when I sat in a seat near the stage at the Met
Watching the rehearsal of a Mozart opera?

Remember when I walked 10 blocks on a
New York City street
Using only a simple cane?

Remember when I taught classes in fiction
and in poetry
To eager, intelligent Questers?

Remember when I travelled to France
Or England or Ireland with friends?

Remember when I could remember?

**No Matter How Sharp a Knife,
It Can't Cut Itself.**

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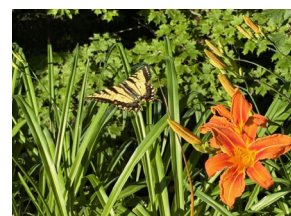
Articles submitted to QNews
may be edited by the Staff.
The Editor-in-Chief is the final arbiter
of the publication's contents.

Who's Doing What



Karen Levin,
George Washington,
and **Estelle Selzer**
helped **Howard Salik** celebrate
his 90th birthday
at a delicious
lunch at Fraunces
Tavern in July.

• • •



A couple
of weeks
ago at her
Vermont
place,
Nina Sanders

spotted this Eastern Tiger Swallowtail
butterfly which had just finished eating
from the Day Lily and flew off.

• • •

Ellen Rittberg

visited the
Galápagos Islands.
Each island and
terrain was a
different color,
the result of the
manner and course
of the eruptions
and the varied composition of the
respective islands' rocks.



• • •

Barbara

Gelber had
company
one after-
noon in the
parking
lot of the
Edgewater, NJ Post Office.



• • •

Ospreys are Nesting at **Sybil Cohen's**
Dune Road, West Hampton Beach location.



Urban Wanderings

by Frank Montaturo

Painting Churches... South Bronx

I never saw Tina Howe's 1983 play... it came and went and didn't register with me. And as I rediscover this photo and see the address: Elton Ave... I wonder: Why was I up there? Where exactly was there? And does it really matter? I wasn't out to document such humble sacred spaces of which there are hundreds throughout the city; that has been done... e.g., Jamie Philips: Portals to Another Era on storefront and community churches in Harlem. I'm too late, but the adventure... the personal and unexpected pleasure afforded by throwing a dart on the map and setting off to explore... is abundantly rewarded by a sky blue wall, a ladder and a bucket of paint. South Bronx Community Church still comes up on a goggle search. And as for there... well... it's in the Melrose area of the South Bronx between 153-154 Streets... an adventure close at hand though the paint job will certainly have been finished.

