

*"Deliberator"*



*"Geronimo"*



*"PC Wiz"*



*"Shadow"*



## *The Hudson Valley Bullshit Society*



1- **Shadow**, in adherence to our late comrade **Deliberator's** carefully planned **HVBS** treks, started from **PC Wiz's** house at precisely 10:10 AM on **July 21, 2010**, a day that threatened showers and thunderstorms. Sure enough, we arrived at the Hoffman House in Kingston at a commendable 11:22 AM. **Geronimo** entered the parking lot at 11:28 - making the meeting time with his usual precision. After welcoming **Geronimo**, we entered the premises after a hiatus of 16 months and greeted the familiar bartender and staff (new faces). Seating ourselves at the customary corner table away from the window, we acquainted ourselves with our attractive young waitress named **Tara**. She was named after the "Gone With the Wind" heroine's Georgia plantation's name. **PC Wiz** quoted the famous "Frankly, Scarlett, I don't give a damn" to no response. **Tara** said she wasn't familiar with many old movies. **Geronimo**

strongly urged her to view the famous film which won 10 Academy Awards.

2- With Killian Red's for **Geronimo** and **PC Wiz** and a cabernet for **Shadow**, **HVBS** members toast to **Deliberator's** memory as the table displays our missing member with a tipped chair and empty place setting. After **Tara** took the photo and our orders, **Shadow** waved over owner **Ginny** Bradley and she came to the table to greet us. She was asked about our previous **HVBS Official Waitress** (since August 1, 2007) **Erin Kathleen Kelly Marie Murphy-Ruzzo**. Occupied with her five children, **Erin** left last Christmas but occasionally drops in to visit. **PC Wiz** inquired about **Erin's** State Police Officer husband's health concerning the serious injury to his back. **Ginny** reported that he is doing well and is back to work.

3- As ordained in the Official Agenda, **Shadow** presented **Geronimo** with "A Trip Down Memory Lane", a selection of **Deliberator** excerpts from the early days of the **HVBS**. Also copies of the last **HVBS** meeting (4-22-2009) at the **Hoffman House** minus an ailing **Deliberator** and the first at **Deliberator's** home (7-22-2009).

4- As we sipped our beverages, **Geronimo** related how he set his cruise control to 62 MPH and watched the traffic zoom past. **PC Wiz** mentioned going through a State Police check point yesterday presumably checking for seat belts and stickers. **Shadow** asked **Geronimo** about **Mandy** and he told us about his hardest decision. His lady vet advised that **Mandy's** problems were very serious and she would not improve. He said Goodbye to his faithful companion and the veterinarian took care of everything. A week later **Geronimo** checked behind his chair where



- Mandy** kept watch while he worked on the computer. There was a "mess" on the floor - **Mandy** had left a remembrance of herself for **Geronimo**!
- 5- **Shadow**, relating to the recent septic drain field installation, informed us that the hydro-seeding has been postponed to late August because it is too hot. The young grass is prone to go into hibernation is the weather is too warm. In local news, **Shadow** told us about two votes for a new Charlton Fire House he and **Associate Member Shirley** had participated in. He said the first was defeated because the plan was "too aggressive". In the second vote, 200 more votes, the proposal was defeated by 34 votes. **Shadow** opined the defeat was due to a glossy print-out voters received - full of innuendo and false statements. The outdated firehouse will not be replaced: A mistake, in **Shadow's** view. **Geronimo** had brought some jokes. The humor was hilarious and members had a good laugh. **PC Wiz** then read a recent dispatch from **Geronimo** e-mail central, "Speaking German (in Texas)". It brought down the house. **PC Wiz** assured **Geronimo** that the German in the story was impeccable and informed him of a pitfall affecting many speakers attempting German. The word "gesheissen", meaning "to defecate", can be changed to mean "to shoot" merely by interchanging the e and the i (geshiessen).
- 6- **Shadow** inquired how son **Dan's** employment is going. **Geronimo** said there is nothing on the employment front. In other news we were informed that **Chaco** is back from Japan and that they are expecting a boy. Relating to last Sunday's dinner, **Shadow** told how he checked his liquor reserves and found some quite low. So, after quaffing a bottle of wine **PC Wiz** had brought, they proceeded to empty the lot - concluding with a small quantity of Metaxa. That caught **Geronimo's** attention, Metaxa being on his highly approved list. **Shadow** then mentioned talk-show host Michael Savage. Both he and **PC Wiz** heard Savage call Port (one of their favorite apéritifs) wine "rotten wine". Where he picked up this opinion escapes us - perhaps he confused Port with wine that had spoiled on early voyages that resulted in the discovery of making most-durable brandy. **PC Wiz** concluded that if you talk all the time you are bound to say something foolish eventually. **Shadow** informed us that he intends, in the future, to purchase a really expensive bottle of Port wine.
- 7- In family news **Geronimo** informed us that **Dan** attended son **Travis's** high school graduation in Florida. Granddaughter **Christie** is going to be 15 in September. In reply to **Shadow's** query how **Sharon** is doing, **Geronimo** said she works in the paper business and it is going quite well despite the recession. He also stated that **Bob's** wages (he has recently remarried) are being garnished for payments for the girls.
- 8- **Geronimo** asked **Shadow** how the Dodgers are doing. **Shadow** said that he thinks Torre is "done". Torre, 70, has been rumored to be thinking of retirement. The Dodgers have lost 7 games in a row. **Shadow** remarked that the recent Yankee news would have upset our devoted Yankee fan, **Deliberator**. Joe Torre, the second longest tenure Yankee manager from 1996-2007, was virtually ignored by the press in the recent deaths of George Steinbrenner (80) and Bob Sheppard (99), the Yankee "Voice of God" announcer for 56 years.
- 9- **Geronimo** asked **PC Wiz** how his soul-searching concerning a new computer was progressing. **PC Wiz** said he found the Dell web site confusing and that he was considering asking **Geronimo's** tech guru **Dan** for advice. His present machine is 7 years old, a considerable age, and he is concerned over a hard-drive failure. **Shadow** happily piped in that he should buy a Mac since he started with one (true) and should end with a Mac. **PC Wiz** said that a Mac he would consider would cost \$1000 to \$1200 more than a Dell. **Shadow** commented that you have to pay for quality and **PC Wiz** could afford it. We shall see.
- 10- **HVBS** members, unexpectedly, all ordered desserts. **Geronimo** ordered the cheesecake, **Shadow** the cobbler with vanilla ice cream, and **PC Wiz** went for the caramel flan. The flan was truly special and **Tara** made frequent trips to top our coffees. Missing our **HVBS** Official Scheduler **Deliberator**, both **Geronimo** and **PC Wiz** had checked the calendar and came up with **Wednesday September 1, 2010** (the week before Labor Day). It was approved and **Shadow** raised the question, as a change of pace, of holding the "free lunch for birthday boy **Geronimo**" meeting at the Raccoon Saloon. The proposal was approved. Our historic "missing member" meeting was adjourned. **Geronimo** was ailing with a bad back causing him discomfort during the meeting. **PC Wiz** opined that he believed chilling of the lower back caused the muscle spasms and to be sure to keep it warm (advice from an osteopath acquaintance of **PC Wiz's**).

Thanks to **Geronimo** for his review and **Shadow** for suggestions and corrections.

**HVBS** Official Scribe Laureate **PC Wiz**

August 2, 2010