

*"Deliberator"*



*"Geronimo"*



*"PC Wiz"*



*"Shadow"*



## *The Hudson Valley Bullshit Society*

### Official Minutes of the seventh HVBS Meeting of 2010 on December 1 at the Hoffman House in Kingston, NY

- 1- On a blustery, rainy morning **Shadow** brought the Northern **HVBS** crew to the Hoffman House, completing the journey at 11:15 AM. **Geronimo**, probably also compensating for the inclement weather, arrived shortly after at 11:22. Arriving at the back door in a driving rain, we found the door locked. **PC Wiz** and **Geronimo** noted lights on inside and no note on the door. **Shadow** directed us to a path on the right side of the building and **PC Wiz** found the door leading into the booth section of the tavern open. Members entered and greeted the staff who assured us they were open. **Ginny Bradley** informed her husband, **Pat**, that the door had not been unlocked and took **Shadow's** and **PC Wiz's** wet coats to hang them up. **HVBS Official Waitress Lorraine** took our orders for restorative beverages - a Killian's Red for **Geronimo** and cabernet sauvignon's for **Shadow** and **PC Wiz**.
- 2- While waiting for our libations, **PC Wiz** opened the cardboard box and gave **Geronimo** his cap with the **HVBS** logo. **Shadow** had suggested the hats and **PC Wiz** ordered them for the occasion. **Geronimo** thanked the members for the gift. **Shadow** toasted to a successful operation replacing **Geronimo's** right hip and a speedy recovery. **PC Wiz** seconded the sentiments as details of the operation dominated the opening of the **HVBS** meeting. He will be hospitalized for four days at St. Francis hospital in Poughkeepsie. According to **Geronimo** they have an excellent operative staff with a good record in doing these replacements. They expect to get him up the next day and **Geronimo** will have home health care during his recovery. He had great praise for **Nurse Dore** whom he met at pre-operative consultations. She will be available for consultation and will make arrangements.
- 3- In more news concerning the **Geronimo** household our Southern Mainstay railed about the "dipsticks" presently his house guests, **Chaco** and her mother from Japan. They are evidently very hard on appliances - so far requiring the repair of the kitchen faucet. It was so worn it had to be replaced at a cost of \$350 for the plumber. In welcome news it was learned that **Dan** has been commuting to his new job in Elmsford for the past two weeks. He and **Chaco** have been looking for a house to purchase with no luck so far. Also that **Dan** will be going to China shortly on business. **PC Wiz** and **Shadow** mentioned that **Russ** will be traveling to Japan on Thursday.
- 4- **HVBS Official Waitress Lorraine** was back for our luncheon orders. **Geronimo** ordered the pulled pork sandwich and when **PC Wiz** ordered the same he commented that "great minds think the same". Can't argue with that. **Geronimo** then related the very-funny story of the "defective parrot". With Thanksgiving just behind us, **Shadow** explained that the dinner was held at his house with **PC Wiz** and **Bobbi** and **Randy** attending. To accommodate the group he and **Associate Member Shirley** moved their table from the kitchen to the living room. The meal went very well with our blind little Schnauzer **Fritzi** quickly learning the new layout. After dinner **Bobbi** and **Randy** displayed the blueprints of their new house with details about the construction. **PC Wiz** showed some prints he had made from the Virginia visit with **Russ** including one showing **Randy's** new house with the first floor wall up. **Shadow** commented that he and **Shirley** had just visited the site and the carpenters were erecting the roof trusses.
- 5- In reporting their trip to visit **Russ** and family, **Shadow** told about meeting **Russ's** boss **John Corcoran** for lunch. It was at the "Stars and Stripes" restaurant on the Yorktown battlefield grounds on Water Street. It is on the York River with the bridge to Gloucester in the background. We had a very enjoyable lunch and found **John** an interesting person who spoke about his family and English heritage. **Shadow** then mentioned he is thinking of buying a new car in the Spring. He thought it most likely would be a Ford since Chrysler had gotten their "last penny out of him". **Shadow**, very upset over the takeover of Chrysler and General Motors by the Federal government, stated that it was poor management that caused their impending bankruptcy. He said he admired Ford for not taking any government

money. **PC Wiz** said he thought GM was stolen from its owners and bondholders who ended up with worthless paper while the United Auto Workers union, who never invested (or risked) any money in GM, ended up with a large chunk of the company. **Geronimo** suggested also considering Honda, which has an outstanding record of dependability and **Shadow** said he definitely would check them out (much of the staff of our local Mohawk Honda came from **Shadow's** original long-time Dodge dealer, Scotia Motors).

- 6- **Geronimo** surprised us by telling us he had purchased a home generator. **PC Wiz** congratulated him on his decision, considering that power has been increasingly interrupted lately by wind or storms. **Geronimo** reminded us that he is particularly vulnerable because his water supply is from a well. Since it was so expensive, **Geronimo** has a manual transfer switch instead of **Shadow's** installation which starts automatically when the power fails for a short time. **Geronimo** has to manually start the generator, which runs on gasoline (again, the propane gas option would have been prohibitively expensive), and then switch the service to the generator. **Shadow**, whose unit is 10 KW and uses 150 cubic feet of natural gas an hour, was informed that **Geronimo's** is 7.7 KW, which will run the household in fine fashion.
- 7- Finally turning to sports **HVBS** members discussed the Giants with their 7-4 record, tied with the Eagles. **Geronimo** commented that **Shadow**, with his 11-5 prediction, was still in the game and would be the winner, if they have only one more loss. **Geronimo** gave his opinion that Eli Manning is a good quarterback but not a great quarterback. **Shadow** concurred with the observation that he does not show the brilliance of his performance in the Superbowl game win. **Shadow** again mentioned the devastating injuries that have left the Giants relying on second-string players. At **Geronimo's** raising the topic of NASCAR, **Shadow** stated that he considers Jimmie Johnson a "fake and a fraud" although he has six Superspeedway wins this season and won his fifth consecutive NASCAR Sprint Cup Series. Citing the diminishing TV and track audience, **Shadow** predicted that it will "be a third rate sport in a few years".
- 8- Catching no sight of our **Waitress Lorraine**, **Geronimo** asked the young waitress that was present for a dessert menu. She brought it and **Geronimo** ordered Kahlua cheesecake and **PC Wiz** went for the creme broulet. **Shadow**, professing no interest in a dessert, was enticed into ordering by **Geronimo**. He opted for simple vanilla ice cream - in **Geronimo's** graphic description, "a big bowl of vanilla ice cream swimming in chocolate sauce". The desserts arrived, brought by **Official Waitress Lorraine**. There was some discussion of current events, especially the latest news concerning the boy holding his class hostage and the FBI trapping a wannabe bomber in Oregon. Although we forgot to schedule our next parley at the meeting, **Geronimo** proposed (in a follow-up e-mail) a tentative date of **Wednesday January 12, 2011**, with a back-up date of the 19<sup>th</sup> in case of inclement weather. The meeting was adjourned and we left the premises in heavy rain and wind.

Thanks to **Geronimo** for his review and graphic description of **Shadow's** dessert.

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

December 18, 2010