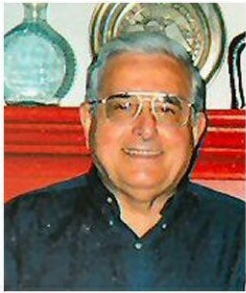


# HV BS The Hudson Valley Bullshit Society

*Jack Gahan*



*Ramrod*



*Gladiator*



*Deliberator*



*PC Wiz*



*Surveyor*

## HVBS Official Minutes – June 20, 2019 – Fourth meeting of the year.

1- On a gloomy morning portending showers **Surveyor**, designated driver for the Northern Trio, took us to the **Hoffman House** for our scheduled rendezvous with our Southern Redoubt **Ramrod**. Arriving a bit early, we awaited his arrival. Fully assembled, we entered the premises and encountered **HVBS Official Waitress Lorayne** at our traditional corner table. She had seen us entering and prepared the missing fourth table setting. **Gladiator** asked for a pillow which quickly appeared. **Lorayne** then took our libation orders: **PC Wiz** asked for a Keegan's Mothers Milk and **Surveyor** opted for a Diet Coke (Pepsi, in this case) with lime. **Gladiator** ordered a Tanqueray Gin and tonic while **Ramrod** selected a glass of ginger ale. When asked why the Diet Pepsi **Surveyor** informed us it was 'doctor's orders' – no alcohol.

2- **Ramrod** declared that illegal aliens getting drivers' licenses really bothered him (the legislature passed the bill and Governor Cuomo signed it into law). He noted that some upstate County Clerks, especially in the Western part of the State, were refusing to issue the licenses - declaring the law is unconstitutional. **PC Wiz** commented that the Rensselaer clerk was one and noted the license was is an official ID and can be used to vote! **Lorayne** brought our drinks and **PC Wiz** commented on the unusual pair of bracelets she was wearing. She proudly told us they are 4Ocean bracelets that cost \$20.00; each purchase pays for removing 1 pound of trash from the ocean or shore and the bracelets are made of recycled plastic from the trash. The different colored cords are for preserving specific sea creatures (such as sharks, manatees, etc.).



3- **Gladiator** reminded us that it has been 5 years since the disappearance of Malaysia Flight 17. The Joint Investigation Team has concluded that it was shot down with a Russian supplied missile by 'rebellion' forces, resulting in the loss of 298 lives, mostly Dutch. **PC Wiz** commented that the plane has not been found and members noted that wreckage has been found. The JIT has filed charges against 4 individuals – 3 Russian and 1 Ukrainian. To lighten the mood, **Surveyor** read a very funny story about baseball in Heaven. **Ramrod** brought up the recent shooting of Big Papi (David Ortiz) in the Dominican Republic. He was mistaken for the friend sitting next to him in the bar. Fortunately Ortiz is now out of the ICU in this country.

4- **Lorayne** arrived to ask us if we were ready to order lunch. **PC Wiz** led off with Quiche from the specials menu, **Surveyor** followed with French onion soup and a tuna sandwich. **Ramrod** asked how the burgers were; assured they were excellent he ordered a medium burger – later remembering he wanted it with a slice of raw onion (really good).

**Lorayne** anticipated **Gladiator's** wish for his usual French dip with hot au jus, noting she knew the portion he preferred. **PC Wiz** asked a question of **Surveyor** that has been on his mind: what is the difference between an apartment and a condo (condominium)? Basically it is the 'form of ownership' (a form of tenure which goes back to Babylonia). **Surveyor** explained that he owns his Palm Beach Gardens condo outright – that it is regarded as real estate. He told us he has no maintenance concerns – this year they power washed the roof, the roads are excellent and the grounds maintained; even periodic interior painting – all taken care of by the community association. **Surveyor** admitted his only concern is a possible devastating hurricane. Incidentally, he told us, hurricanes actually start with dust clouds from the African Sahara desert blowing Westerly over the Atlantic.

**5- PC Wiz** asked **Ramrod** about his recent hospitalization at the Vassar Brothers Medical Center in Poughkeepsie. He recovered quite well but complained about the hospital service. **Ramrod** was on a gurney in Emergency for 6 ½ hours! He told us he had an alarm on the gurney to call for help if he needed it; but no-one came when he used the button. So **Ramrod** got up to relieve himself and an alarm went off! Evidently this is routine for hospitals: **Gladiator** told us of an episode in Ellis Hospital where he was on the Emergency gurney for eight hours! It seems that '93' is the magic number for blood oxygen level and **Ramrod**, being low, practiced deep breathing – he made the '93'! He also had complaints about the hospital food, saying it was terrible. **Surveyor** asked and **Ramrod** confirmed the food was 'low-sodium'. All agreed it must have been awful.

**6- Ramrod** thinks something is wrong with his mail delivery; he is sure mailed bills are missing or are delivered late. **Gladiator**, in order to reduce the pile of paper is using the KeyBank service that pays bills automatically. So far it is working perfectly and he is enjoying the reduction in mail (although some insist on mailing receipts). **Ramrod** mentioned the Iranian shooting down of the U.S. drone in International Air Space over the Persian Gulf – actually two at \$180 million each. They also managed to damage 4 other-flag ships with mines. President Trump has ordered a strike on the shore missile installations: **Gladiator's** opinion is 'do it'. **HVBS** members had no opinion on the Democrat hopefuls, except perhaps Biden or Warren. Members also discussed the Democrat bills for 'reparations', going to crooked Al Sharpton for his 'blessing'.

**7- Turning to baseball, Ramrod** reported the Yankee good news: CC Sabathia won his 250<sup>th</sup> game as the Yanks swept the TB Rays in 3 games straight. **HVBS** members all agreed CC's days are numbered. **Ramrod** also was hopeful the Yanks have a new 'slugger' in Edwin Encarnacion, as 'the Judge' is preparing to return. **PC Wiz** referred to news stories about Gloria Vanderbilt's death at the age of 94. **Gladiator** was familiar with the fact that there is no inheritance for her son Anderson Cooper (CNN) – it has all been dispersed to charities and foundations (he knew and agreed).

**8- Lorayne** appeared to check on final after lunch coffees. All agreed and also all decided to not have dessert. After some discussion a date for our next session was decided: **Thursday July 11, 2019**. The meeting was adjourned.

**Thanks to Gladiator's review and the possibility of re-scheduling our next meeting; also thanks to Ramrod for his acceptance of the minutes.**

**HVBS Official Scribe Laureate PC Wiz**

June 25, 2019

**Official Minutes converted to .pdf for HVBS web page: June 29, 2019**