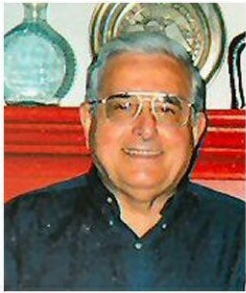


HV BS The Hudson Valley Bullshit Society

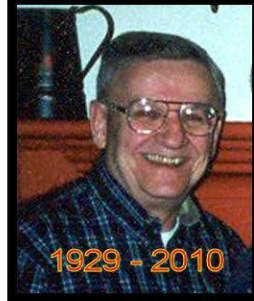
Jack Gahan



Ramrod



Gladiator



Deliberator



PC Wiz



Surveyor

HVBS Official Minutes – October 23, 2019 – Sixth meeting of the year.

1- After an early morning rain **PC Wiz** drove to **Surveyor's** house. The day turned sunny and bright as **Surveyor** drove the core Northern group headed South to our scheduled **HVBS** meeting at the **Hoffman House**. Missing was our Northern anchor **Gladiator** who, although too ill to travel, nevertheless insisted on the meeting proceeding. We proceeded along the almost finished 'boulevard' section of I-787 with its 'speed bumps' at the intersections and slightly kinked roadway. We arrived at the **Hoffman House** at 11:22 (the 'For Sale' sign still up) and **Ramrod** appeared promptly. Entering the premises we were greeted by **host Pat**, **bartender Pat**, **Hostess Ginny Bradley** and **HVBS Official Waitress Lorayne**.



2- After we were seated **Lorayne** asked about drinks for the group. **Ramrod** asked if the hot cider drink was available. Assured it was, he ordered one with rum. **Surveyor** seconded the order and **PC Wiz**, after a moment, decided to have the drink also. **Surveyor** asked **Lorayne** to take a photograph with his cell phone. She did so as we toasted to our absent member, **Gladiator**. **Surveyor** showed us the picture and he then promptly emailed it to **Gladiator**.

3- Reminded of **Ramrod's** recent 90th birthday celebration which **Surveyor** drove **HVBS Associate Member Shirley** and **PC Wiz** to, (**Gladiator** unfortunately wasn't able to attend). **Surveyor** told **Ramrod** what he had observed during **Ramrod's** address to his friends. Seated at the corner of the head table, **Surveyor** had a clear view of **Ramrod's** granddaughters at the other end. Encouraged by the jovial crowd, **Ramrod** told his 'Lone Ranger and Silver' story. Granddaughter **Casey** evidently didn't understand the punch line and asked sister **Kristi** a question. The whispered explanation resulted in a look of stunned surprise! **Ramrod**, of course, had not seen the event as the audience exploded in laughter at his story. **Surveyor** said we arrived late for the party but could not remember why – luckily we did arrive before **Ramrod** and **Dan**. **Ramrod** explained he couldn't understand why the parking lot of the Athena Gyro Taverna was so full on a Thursday – the party was a total surprise.



4- **PC Wiz** related how Verizon is making obsolete all 3G (third generation) cell phones. He and **Gladiator** had older 'flip-phones' and had to replace them with newer 4G phones. **PC Wiz** wondered if **Ramrod's** carrier was doing the same – so far evidently not. **PC Wiz** explained that Verizon is going to use the 3G space on cell towers for the coming 5G phones which will use higher frequencies and faster speeds – all the fancy new sensors in homes and industries will require 5G power. **Ramrod** is very satisfied with his phone and has heard nothing from his service. He told us he really doesn't need a cell phone, being near his land line most of the time. **PC Wiz** said he had a cell phone for safety – in case of car breakdown, trouble on a bike trail, or even when shopping.

5- **Lorayne** arrived for lunch orders. **PC Wiz** quipped that they were going to have an extra French Dip, **Gladiator's** favorite, because of his absence. **Ramrod** decided to have the French onion soup with a turkey sandwich – similar to **Surveyor's** favored order. In turn **Surveyor** did request the same, except with a tuna salad sandwich. **PC Wiz** settled on a pastrami Reuben. **Surveyor** brought up the California wild fires, out of control because of the seasonal Santa Ana winds (up to 65 or more MPH). (The winds are named Santa Ana for the Santa Ana Canyon in Orange County). **Surveyor** informed us that the PG&E utility is bankrupt – which started with the San Bruno gas line explosion in 2010. California has laws that do not allow clearing brush even below power lines and then seeks damages if the line starts a fire. The utility, to protect themselves, is shutting down power lines to avoid high wind losses from downed lines. **PC Wiz** suggested burying the likely lines to reduce the fire hazard. An expensive (about 3 million dollars a mile) option they cannot afford.

6- **Surveyor** pulled out a sheaf of papers. He had brought along some selected jokes which we enjoyed. **Ramrod** related some great stories from memory. In sports **Surveyor** noted that New York City has 9 professional teams that are 'all last'. We noted that **Gladiator** has predicted a dismal Giant season – perhaps 3 or 4 wins with their new quarterback Daniel Jones, presently 2-5. There was a lack of confidence in Coach Pat Shurmur's field decisions. **Lorayne** approached us for dessert orders. We all asked for coffees and only **PC Wiz** was interested in a dessert – having half of his Reuben boxed. He selected the crème brulee only to have **Lorayne** inform that they were out. So **PC Wiz** opted for the flan. There was some discussion about windmill power generation and **PC Wiz** mentioned that GE is developing batteries to store power when there is no wind. In the meantime Governor Cuomo's ban on new gas lines has resulted in Long Island shortages (no new connections).

7- **Surveyor** calculated our bills and inserted his joke pages into the bill folder for **Lorayne**. She noticed the addition and thanked us. Our meeting was adjourned.

HVBS Official Scribe Laureate **PC Wiz**
October 30, 2019

Thanks to **Ramrod** and **Surveyor** for their review of the preliminary minutes.

Converted to .pdf file and uploaded to **HVBS** web page 11-01-2019.