

SENIOR MOMENTS

Visit our website at: <https://www.oldguardofwestchester.org>

The game of Bridge at the Old Guard.....



Are you a bridge player? I am among about 8 Old Guard members who play a social game right after meetings on Tuesday afternoons from 1 until shortly after 2 pm. We don't keep score, have no regular partners, and are never critical, each of us making our own mistakes, and only sometimes play by "convention," which usually has to be explained whenever someone mentions, "Blackwood," or "Stayman;" and, mostly, we thoroughly enjoy the camaraderie. On the other side of the room are generally 12 members (three tables) thoroughly enjoying "duplicate bridge," a serious and competitive exercise based more on skill than on "the luck of the cards." They begin just before we do and finish far into the afternoon (word has it that some remain until 4 pm), with nary an irrelevant voice to be heard under strict rules of deportment. I don't know which side of the room derives more pleasure in this game, but bridge is an interesting activity for so many of our members.

I have been playing bridge off and on, mostly off, for more than fifty years but my game has never improved and that's okay because my "competition" doesn't seem to have gotten better either.

Actively seeking new articles. Articles, photos and poems can be e-mailed to the editor, mholstein@optonline.net

MASKED MARVELS OF THE OLD GUARD ° CONTEST THREE SOLUTION



13. Richard Ronde



14. William Meyer



15. Frank Alpert



16. Bernard Anderson



17. Paul Cioffari



18. Paul Abramson



While the contest has ended, there were still two unpublished pictures.

I present to you the masked

Al Dold
and
Dave Klein

ON SPITTING

BY WALTER SCHWARTZ



WARNING: What you're about to read is rather foul mouthed and disgusting. Younger or more sensitive viewers should close their eyes, hold their noses and, especially, cover their mouths before reading on. Anyone over 18 must either wear a mask and socially distance, or sign one of those disclaimer agreements before continuing.

I don't want to get into a spat about this subject, however I must acknowledge that I'm so glad to read that baseball is coming back to our television screens without spitting. It's really so much better—and safer--than spitting returning this summer without baseball. Even on a hot steamy day, I never warmed to watching players spit tobacco juice, sunflower seeds or saliva, either while sitting in the dugout or standing in the playing field. Honestly, I thought it rather downgrading, if you get my drift.

Expectorating may have been a frequent event during the Middle Ages, long before Abner Doubleday arrived on the field, but most everywhere except in major league baseball it has been looked upon as rude, crude or gross.

Growing up a Yankee fan, I hated whenever Ted Williams came to the Bronx, and not because of his lifetime .344 batting average. He was known as the Splendid Spitter, or something like that. And his reaction to the Yankee fans spewing curse words at him was either to hit a homerun into the right field stands or spit, and often he did both.

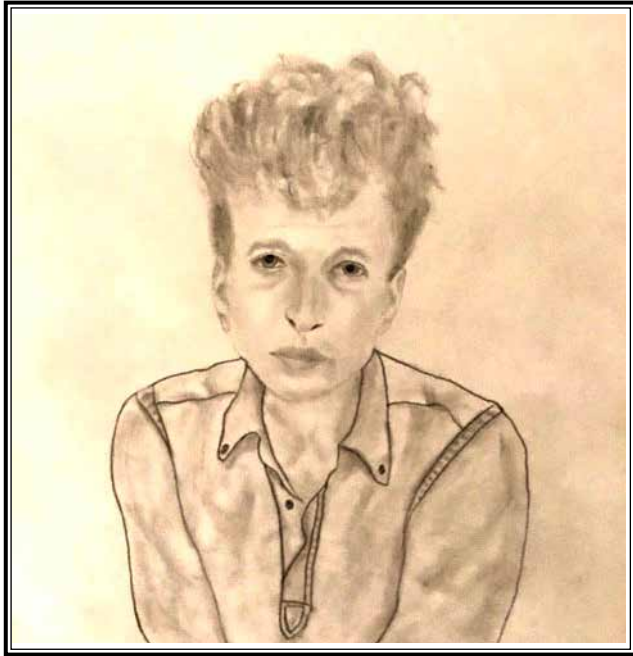
We knew a boy in the old neighborhood who did a lot of things in rather bad taste and was a spitting image of a foul-mouthed kid. My sister referred to him as "Spitter Boy," for obvious reasons.

Although, I must confess to having a vague recollection of participating in long-distance spitting contests in those days, to see how far we could propel our saliva or cherry pits. Fortunately, I never took home a silver-plated spittoon for my efforts because my mother would have washed my mouth with soap.

But now, I've already said more than a mouthful and my throat is running dry. If you want to learn more on the subject of expectoration, try Google. Or Gargle.

ART & POETRY CORNER

SKETCHES BY JULIAN LEVENTHAL



Can you identify this young man? I drew it from a photo when he was in his 20s. He's now 79. He was famous then and even more famous now. Let me know if hints are needed. jleventhal44@icloud.com



Verrazano Bridge by Mike Holstein



The Old Guard of Westchester is a social organization of retired business and professional men who meet for fellowship, recreation, mutual support, and community service. For membership information: 914-428-4218