



Root Beer Float

**Root Beer and
Checker Club**
Established 1944
August 2023

IN THIS ISSUE

Birthdays
Club/Other News
Event Previews
8-Ball & Service Awards
Lakehurst
Member News
Business Bulletin Bd.
Cartoon of the Month

OFFICERS

President

Rich Vodhanel

Vice President

Jim Powers

Treasurer

Charlie Parr

Secretary

Duncan Jay

A publication of the

**Root Beer and
Checker Club**

P. O. Box 6121

**Fair Haven, NJ
07704**

www.rootbeerclub.org

Editors

Jim Powers

Paul Hester

Bill Tice

Issue 202

President's Message

As this summer speeds by us, many of us enjoyed summer block parties and summer blockbuster movies. Little Silver celebrated its centennial on June 24 with a parade, food, music and family fun, and concluded with a stellar fireworks display. Little Silver resident John R. Barrows gave an interesting presentation which described four amazing geniuses who all called the tiny town of Little Silver home. His presentation can be found on the Monmouth County Historical Association website: <https://youtu.be/3-1eJcwsBys>. Blockbuster movies are back! led by 'Barbenheimer'. My wife and I, with friends, saw 'Oppenheimer', which is a gripping account of the advent of nuclear weapons. 'Barbie' is next on our list. What was your favorite blockbuster movie?



Summer fun continues for the Root Beer and Checker club:

Tuesday lunches at Bahr's

July 23, "The Music Man" at Count Basie Theater

July 26, Lakehurst Tour

August 13 Day at the Races at Monmouth Park

August 15 Blue Claws baseball game

Thursdays cycling at Sandy Hook, followed by lunch (of course)

September 13, RBCC Fall Party at Rumson Boat House.

More details on these events can be found in this edition of the Float.

(cont.)

Club News

Presidents Message (cont).

I would like to conclude by acknowledging the many volunteers in Root in Checker Club who give generously of their time and talents to keep our club a vibrant, fun, and interesting association, with a membership that represents the outstanding business and professional people of the community. Our 8 Ball Award gives special recognition to a club member for services rendered in the community (local, state, national, international), or who has performed services of great benefit to our Club. This year's recipient of this distinguished award is Ed Fenton.

Congratulations Ed! Previous winners of the 8 Ball Award are listed on our club's website:

<https://rootbeerandcheckerclub.org/8-ball-award>.

Enjoy summer! Autumn Leaves are coming.

Rich Vodhanel

Health News - As per our Dr. Tim Sullivan, COVID is still out there. Consider getting booster (no longer free).

CARE COMMITTEE

Note, that if anyone should know of a fellow member being ill, incapacitated or unfortunately deceased, please let one of the Board members know so that as a club we can get in touch by phone call, get well/sympathy card, or hospital/nursing home visit.

RB&CC Annual Membership dues and other payments

Due to some issues not everyone has received the latest invoice so please send in a check for the annul dues if you haven't already done so !

In order to clarify the process and maintain sound fiscal financial policy please note that the RB&CC Board of Directors has agreed to the following: **Annual membership dues are \$120 due July 1st with invoices being emailed in June.** Payments for luncheons are due monthly. Payments for special events such as Spring, Fall and Christmas/Holiday parties are due in advance of the dates involved.

Club News (cont.)

Our Birthdays This Month

Jeff Palumbo	1	Stewart Van Winkle	3	JP Elard	15
Guy Albanese	16	Nick Calendo	21	Walt Rapp	24
		Paul Hester	25		

A Day at the Races - Sunday, August 13th

If interested please email Rich Vodhanel at rsvodhanel@verizon.net

August's Birthdays Cake - Bahr's Tuesday, August 15th

Blue Claws Game Tuesday, August 15th (Further details below)

Fall Cocktail Party

Boat House at the Rumson Golf and Country Club

September 13th - \$78 p/p member and guest - Starts at 6 pm

Two River Theater Production of Hair - October 15th - 3 pm
(Further details below)

Holiday Party, Beacon Hill Golf and Country Club - December 13th

\$62 p/p member and guest - Details to follow.

Speakers in the works - Details to follow

Kim Guadagno - Sisters of Charity in Asbury Park

Paul Lieberman - Cyber Security

Bill Bennett - The Back Nine

John Barrows - Fair Haven inventor

KAL - Cartoonist for Economist

FYI - If anyone is having a problem with transportation to our lunches or special events, please let Jim Powers (seamuspowers@yahoo.com) know.

Note - Emails from Dona Topinka are your RB&CC invoices !

Club News (cont.)

Day at the Races.

The 18th Day at the Races is planned for Sunday, August 13th in the Terrace Restaurant at Monmouth Park.

The event is a long-standing tradition (interrupted for three years by Covid) and has been well attended in the past.

The park opens at 11:30 am with valet parking at the Club House entrance or self-parking near the main gate. The club will have a dedicated group of tables in the restaurant and lunch will be provided with buffet appetizers and ala carte entries.

The event is a long-standing tradition (interrupted for three years by Covid) that has been well attended in the past.

The Dining Club is indoor dining with a lovely trackside view. It is **\$32.95** per person for soup, salad & dip bar along with an entree from a prix-fixe menu.
Children pay **\$23.95**

(Prices **do not** include parking, entrance, or race program).

Paul Sperber has indicated his family will bring 13 members to that event! Also interested so far are Ralph and Meta Wyndrum and Charlie Parr.

If interested please email **Rich Vodhanel** with the **number** of tickets you will need and mail your check to the RBCC post office box.

Rich will let those going of any further details;

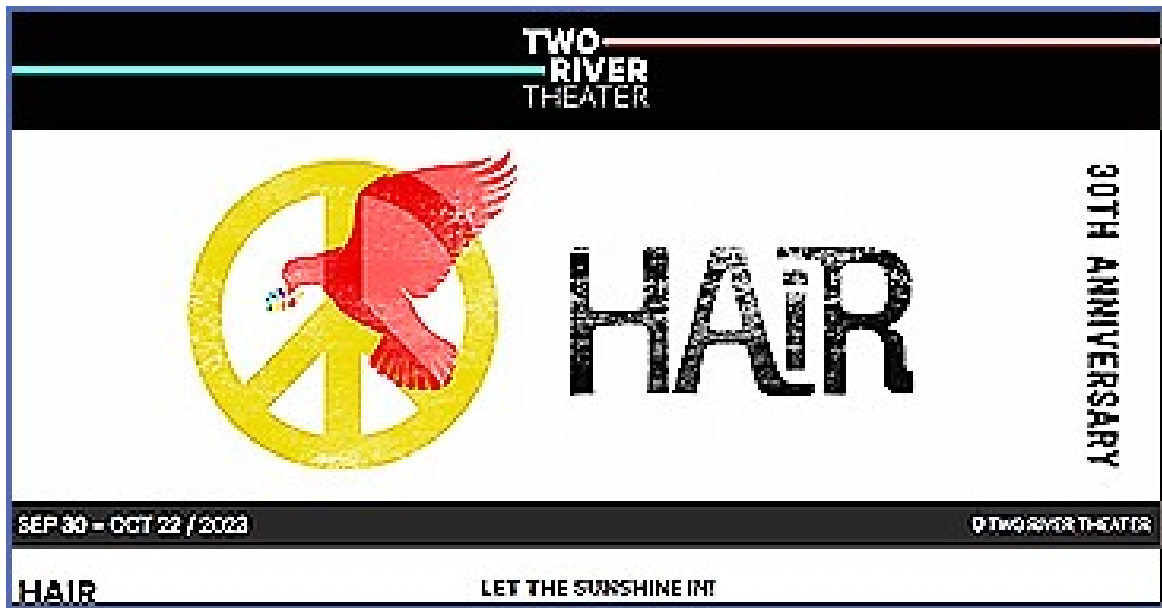
rsvodhanel@verizon.net

Blue Claws Game Tuesday, August 15th

Once again we are planning to attend a Blue Claws game on Tuesday, August 15th at 7:05 pm. Please let me know if you are interested in attending. The group cost for the tickets is #12 each. If you have signed up for tickets, please send in your payment with "Blue Claws" in the comment line to our post office Box I have a couple of extras if you would like to sign up. Please let me know.

Jim Powers,

Club News (cont.)



Let the sunshine in! During the Summer of Love, a group of young Americans dream of a beautiful future filled with harmony and understanding. The groundbreaking rock musical includes the Grammy Award™-winning hits “Aquarius,” “Good Morning Starshine,” and the title song’s ode to long, brilliant, beautiful “Hair!” Opening Two River Theater’s 30th anniversary season, Director James Vásquez (Old Globe Resident Artist, *American Mariachi*) and choreographer Mayte Natalio (*Love in Hate Nation*) bring their 2021 staging from the Old Globe Theatre, which was hailed as “A first-class production. A *Hair* to seek out (*San Diego Story*).” Peace now, freedom now, *Hair* now .

Club members who are interested in getting tickets should be aware that using the word “**Checker**” will give them a discount which will show up when you reach the payment page. The Board chose the **October 15th** performance at **3:00 pm** as a date we could join together. Members are responsible for purchasing their own tickets.

The discount deadline when ordering is

August 15th !

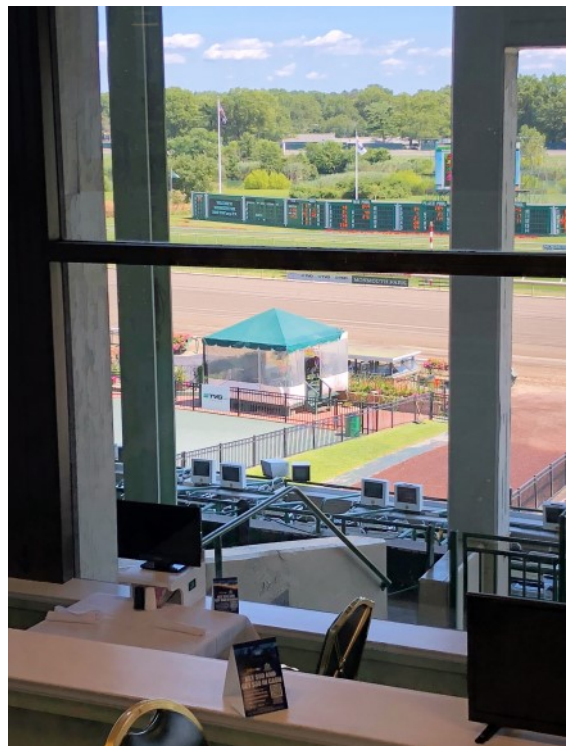
Club News (cont.)



Travels of the RB&CC Cap - Terry Flynn afloat in the Dead Sea



July's Birthday Cake
Photo, Jim Powers



This Year's 8 Ball Award Winner is - Ed Fenton!

Tim Sullivan introduced our new 8 Ball winner.

This year's recipient was born and raised in Providence RI, the second of three children.

During high school he earned money as a soda jerk at a local drug store. He obtained both a bachelor & master degree in business administration. His first job out of college brought him to New Jersey as a management trainee at Sears. He had difficulty using Sears PA system because of his New England accent and terminology, referring to water fountains as "bubblas". His best sales job at Sears was convincing a young graduate nurse to become his future wife. They have been married for 52 years, have two children and three grandchildren. Knowing our recipient's sense of humor, you'll appreciate his granddaughter (at a very young age) saying "he is so annoying he does not know he is annoying."

He worked at various locations during his years with Sears. In 1984 he gained employment with New Jersey Transit, managing their Pension Department for over 20 years. He finds delays at railroad crossings and load train whistles reassuring that his next pension check will be in the mail.

Our recipient has been a member of Root Beer & Checker for over a dozen years, serving on the Board and as President. He spent 9 years on the Little Silver Board of Education, serving 3 years as President and the Little Silver Education Foundation. He has taught Sunday school at Nativity Church, Fair Haven, and serves as a eucharistic minister at Nativity and Riverview Medical Center.

A product of a parochial education, his love of family and deep faith in God is only matched by his faith in the Boston Red Socks and Providence College basketball.

This year's recipient of Root Beer & Checker's 8 Ball Award is Ed Fenton !



This Year's 8 Ball Award Winner is - Ed Fenton! (cont.)



Service Awards - Richard Huff & Charley Shay !



Awards Luncheon Attendees - 8/2 & Best Joke of the Week



Lakehurst Naval Air Station Tour - July 26

On Wednesday, July 26, approximately 28 members and guests toured the Joint Base McGuire (aka Lakehurst Naval Air Station). Kevin, Marty, and Pete were our tour guides. We began with a tour of the Cathedral of the Air, a Norman-Gothic military chapel in Lakehurst, New Jersey, United States. It was conceived by Reverend Gill Robb Wilson, one-time national chaplain of the American Legion,^[1] and is intended to serve the military personnel serving at the Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst. The chapel features stained glass windows memorializing the loss of naval airships USS Akron and USS Shenandoah. Both airships had been based at the nearby Lakehurst Naval Air Station.^[2]

Originally used primarily as a Roman Catholic church, it no longer holds regular services and is used as a non-denominational location for weddings, baptisms and funerals.

The Hindenburg Disaster

We drove in a caravan to the spot where the Hindenburg burned. Our guides stressed how important cross Atlantic travel in the giant airships was at the time. This was the perceived way of the future. Airships could cross the Atlantic in just two and a half days compared to five or six in ocean liners. The disaster occurred on May 6, 1937: in 1936 the Hindenburg made ten successful trips between Germany and the United States. In March of 1937 the Hindenburg made a successful trip between Germany and Brazil. The *Hindenburg* class were built entirely from duralumin. The leader of the design team was Ludwig Dürr, who had overseen the design of all Zeppelins except LZ-1 (on which he was a crew member), under the overall direction of Hugo Eckener, the head of the company. They were 245 m (804 ft) long and 41 m (135 ft) in diameter. The previous largest civilian airship, with a length of 237 m (777 ft) and a width of 40 m (130 ft), was the British R101, which was completed in 1929. The U.S. Navy's Akron and Macon were 239 m (785 ft) long and 44 m (144 ft) wide.

For more details on the Hindenburg and the accident follow this Wikipedia link:

Jerry Mahood provided this link regarding the latest theory of the accident causes.

<https://youtu.be/nTdJnZYeZFk>

Another interesting topic was the role of Navy Blimps during WWII. Before and during the war 134 blimps were produced by Goodyear to function as submarine hunters. For further information on that visit <https://www.bing.com/search?form=MOZLBR&pc=MOZI&q=us+navy+blimps+ww2>.

We visited Hanger #1, one of the largest of its kind. It is 966 feet long, 350 feet wide, and 224 feet high. This was an amazing building. For more details and history visit this Wikipedia link

Thanks to our tour guides and Lydia for making this a wonderful experience.



Lakehurst Naval Air Station Tour - July 26 (cont.)

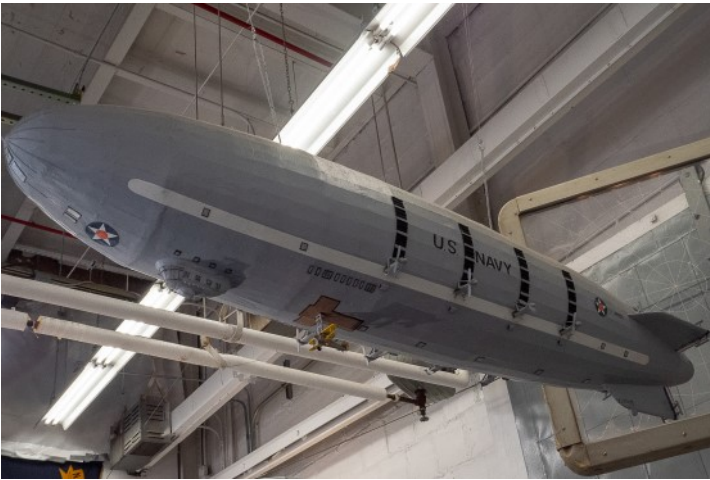


The site of the Hindenburg disaster and a model of the airship.

Below models of US Navy Airships



Lakehurst Naval Air Station Tour - July 26 (cont.)



The USS Akron which could launch and retrieve aircraft.



A mockup of the Hindenburg bridge used for a movie.

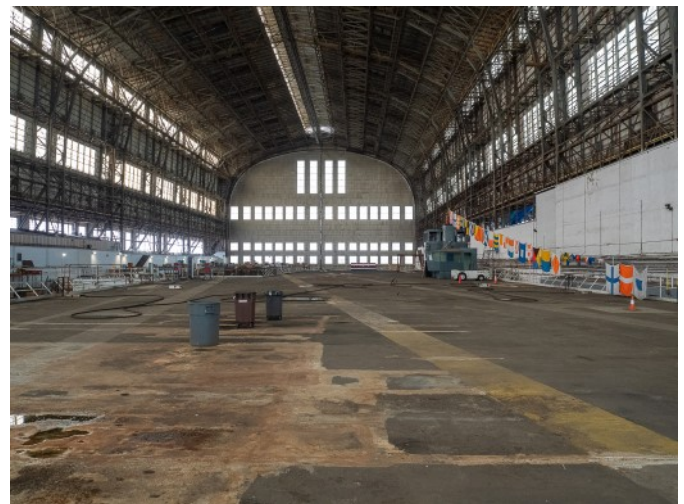


A model of a Navy blimp used to guard convoys out of east coast ports.



Les Mathis stands beside the footlocker of Jim Rangus. Les and Jim served together in northern France. He was surprised by the find.

Right—the hanger was enormous dwarfing the model carrier deck.



Lakehurst Naval Air Station Tour - July 26 (cont.)



Summer, Fun & Family! - Paul Hester

As so many of us have heard many times before, especially this time of year, Time Flies! For our family, it's flying faster than ever. It seems every year we have less and less Family time. Two of our kids are now in college and the third is an even busier than ever high schooler moving onward and upward to her sophomore year. With almost all of our family time gone for 9 months of the year the summer has become the most important time for bonding. Over the last few years we've made the most of it. Trips to Cape Cod and Hawaii along with local trips to Yankee Stadium have been great highlights in our memory book. This summer took us on another adventure away from home. We packed up our car and headed North to Lake Ontario where our son Jack joined us. We enjoyed a wonderful week at a lovely Air BnB right on the Lake and took in the most beautiful sites of Norther New York and Canada. Here are just a few of our photos. Please feel free to visit my site at your leisure to check out the rest. And above all else, Enjoy All The Family Time You Can!!!

<https://www.oceanportphotos.com/Lake-Ontario-Vacation/n-GRx8xP>

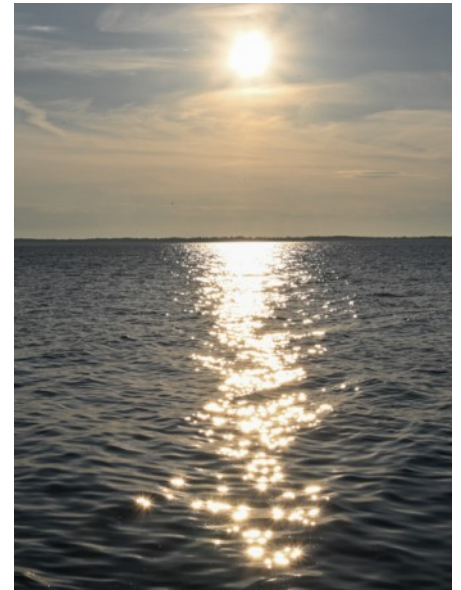
The View From Our Home Away From Home



Beautiful Sunset to Start Our Trip

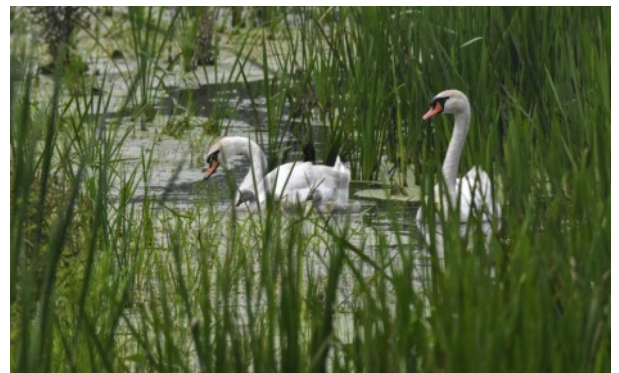


Our First Photo From The Trip



Canadian Fires Limited Our View On The Last Day

Summer, Fun & Family! - Paul Hester (cont.)



Summer, Fun & Family!



Adventures in Maine and Canada with Robin and Al Zager

Being landlubbers now did deter Robin and me from sailing to Maine and beyond this summer. We just did it by car. We spent a good deal of time visiting family and friends along the Maine coast before crossing into Canada. And of course, I wore my Root Beer and Checker hat all along the journey to spread club good will.

One of the highlights was a stop along Route 1 in Wiscasset for a lobster roll at “Red’s Eats”. The one-hour wait in line (hey we were tourists!) did not disappoint. We followed the company of many famous people who have stopped here. The \$34 price was not too high. Robin and I shared what was

probably at least 1.5 pounds of perfectly prepared pure lobster meat and did not leave hungry.



Sailing friends who have retired to Maine from their careers in NYC took us to Popham Beach, a state park where there is about a mile walk at low tide to the rocks that become an island at high tide.

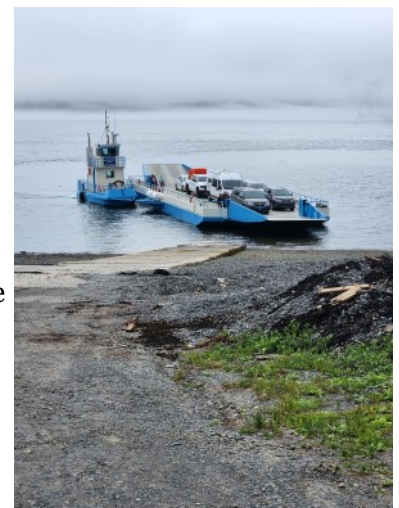
Campobello Island, Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt’s summer home, is across a bridge from Lubec, Maine, just over the border into Canada. Although it is a bit of a drive to get there, the trip is well worth it. This national park is jointly owned and managed by both the United States and Canada, the only such arrangement for a national park in the world, they say. Extremely friendly and knowledgeable guides took us back to the time when Franklin and Eleanor relaxed there with their family.



St. John, New Brunswick, Canada, was our next stop. The shortest way to get there was by ferry from Campobello Island to Deer Island, then another ferry (note the tidal range) to the mainland.

St. John is a cruise ship stop with many good eateries within walking distance of the ship terminal. An interesting market place for visitors was created at the terminal using shipping containers fashioned into

the many shops and colorfully painted with eye-catching artwork.



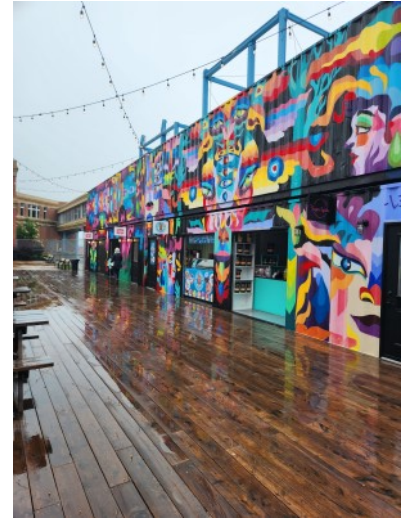
We toured the Saint John Jewish Historical Museum and home to Shaarei Zedek Synagogue. As is a common story, the synagogue community once thrived with members who were the merchants in the city. As their children went off to college, they settled elsewhere. So, the Jewish house of worship with a much smaller membership today is connected to the museum which tells the community’s story. On our walk to dinner, we passed by the very impressive Anglican Church. After dinner we stopped into

(Continued on page 19)

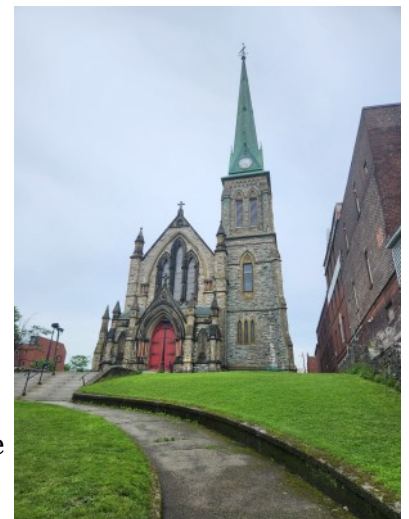
Adventures in Maine and Canada with Robin and Al Zager (cont.)



Woodchucks, an interesting establishment where one can down adult beverages while tossing axes at a large target about 30 feet away. We did not indulge, but we chatted with a group of brand-new friends that loaned me their axes for a photo op.

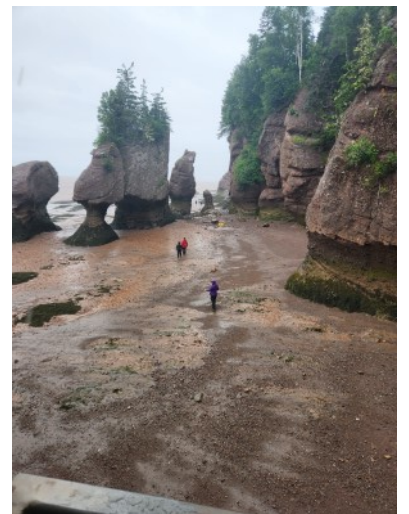


We left Saint John at 5:20 am to get to Cape Hopewell the park's 8:00 am opening when, coincidentally that day, the tide started to wash in. On the way, we stopped to see the fishing boats at their pier, sitting on supports to await the tidal surge for their next trip. Since it was very windy and rainy, we did not go all the way down to the "beach," but we got a good look at the eroded rock formations that evidence the 20'-30' tidal range at this northern end of the Bay of Fundy.



We then moved on to Prince Edward Island via the 8.0157 mile-long Confederation Bridge from New Brunswick. PEI is a beautiful island with miles and miles of neatly maintained farms, a northern facing beach national park, not unlike Gateway National Park on Sandy Hook, and the main city of Charlottetown on the southern waterfront. The city has a wide variety of restaurants, sort of like a Red Bank downtown on steroids. Particularly interesting is the firehouse, colorfully painted on its side wall with a very "cool" 1929 firetruck parked outside.

When we left PEI, Robin paid the \$50.25 (Canadian) toll on our return trip with our debit card.



Business Bulletin Board



Gregg T. Abella
Co-Principal

INVESTMENT PARTNERS
ASSET MANAGEMENT, INC.
Registered Investment Adviser

10 Station Place
Metuchen, NJ 08840

Tel: 732.205.0391
Fax: 732.205.0395
gabella@investmentpartners.com
www.investmentpartners.com



700 Shrewsbury Ave.
Red Bank, NJ 07701
www.georgewall.com

Direct: (732) 704-9168
Fax: (732) 530-4276
E-mail: jeffwall@georgewall.com

Jeff Wall
President



VAN WINKLE ASSOCIATES

A beacon of sound financial strategies since 1979.

BILL VAN WINKLE, CFP®, MSFS
FINANCIAL ADVISER®

732/741-4046 . FAX 732/741-8776
776 SHREWSBURY AVENUE . TINTON FALLS, NEW JERSEY 07724



VAN WINKLE ASSOCIATES

A beacon of sound financial strategies since 1979.

STUART VAN WINKLE, CFP®
INSURANCE . GROUP BENEFITS . RETIREMENT

732/741-4046 . SVANWINKLE1@FT.NEWYORKLIFE.COM
776 SHREWSBURY AVENUE . TINTON FALLS, NEW JERSEY 07724



James McGuinness, MD
Medical Director
jmcguinness@ParkerHC.com

211 Shrewsbury Avenue
Red Bank, NJ 07701
Phone 732-212-0777
Fax 732-212-9030

BEACON



GENEALOGY SERVICES

RAYMOND J. VETH, M.Ed.
Professional Genealogist

8 Confield Court
Red Bank, NJ 07701
(Middletown Twp.)
732.299.4961
CasperVeth@aol.com

Richard F. Bundy, Th.M., LLC
*Individual, Marriage and Family
Therapy*

24 N. Third Avenue, Suite 108
Highland Park, NJ 08904
732-828-7447

39 Avenue at the Commons, Suite 106
Shrewsbury, NJ 07702
732-828-7447



*We all long for
smooth sailing.*



Frank Seggio

823 West Park Ave., #131
Ocean, NJ USA 07712
+1.848.207.6268
China: +86 133 0199 6206

email: frank.seggio@mpgcommunications.com



ALBERT A. ZAGER, ESQ.

119 Avenue at the Commons, Suite 4
Shrewsbury, New Jersey 07702
Phone 732.747.3700
Fax 732.758.9068

azager@zagerfuchs.com
www.zagerfuchs.com



WEIR & PLAZA, LLC

Counsellors At Law

EDWARD J. PLAZA, ESQ.

25 SYCAMORE AVENUE, SUITE 103
LITTLE SILVER, NEW JERSEY 07739

732-741-8181
732-747-8088 Fax
weirplaza@weirplaza.com
www.weir-plaza.com

Business Bulletin Board (continued)

GARY A CASAZZA
GARY ALLEN LLC
Construction Is Us



PO Box 813
Red Bank, NJ 07701

732-693-4699
732-219-5944
gcasazza@gmail.com

Fine Art Photography
Jim Powers
15 Barbara Lane
Oakhurst, NJ 07755
(732) 616-2985



Songs of Martin Torbert 

Recorded by the artist "Fezziwhig" available on the Web at:
Spotify/Apple Music/iTunes/YouTube/Amazon Music/Deezer/ReverbNation/Etc.

Google: **Fezziwhig**

sensibleshoesmusic@yahoo.com



Oceanportphotos@gmail.com
732-963-7628

**Hats ! We've got Hats !
Thanks to Terry Flynn
for making this happen !
\$22 each billed through
monthly invoices.**

***Cartoon
of the
Month !***

