

**Remarks of William J. Bowe**  
**At the 112<sup>th</sup> Annual Members' Meeting**  
**The Cliff Dwellers**  
200 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL  
January 7, 2019

**AGENDA**

**Call to Order – Eve Moran (CD '10)**

- **[Eve Moran Remarks]**

**Greetings: Master of Ceremonies - William Bowe (CD '97)**

Our predecessors from the get go over 100 years ago, knew how to laugh and have a good time. This evening I will try in my own way to celebrate that tradition. So later after our reports, I will share with you some mistakes I've made in my long life as a male. I'm focused on this because not long ago I was diagnosed with what the doctors call "Male Privilege Bias Patriarchal Domination Syndrome, with Associated High Levels of Toxic Testosterone." I remind you ahead of time that what is said at The Cliff Dwellers should stay at The Cliff Dwellers.

**Introduction of Reports - William Bowe (CD '97)**

If you've been at our Annual Meeting of Members before, you know that it has at least one report so boring it may cause you to bring about the clattering of silverware. That being said, our Committee Chairs and members are the folks that help our Club run smoothly. They and our Officers and Directors deserve our thanks for their hard work during the year. Will you acknowledge their good work with a round of applause? Now, let's proceed to our reports.

- **Eve**, please lead us off with the President's Report.

**President's Report – Eve Moran (CD '10)**

- **David Mann**, please start us off with the Treasurer's Report.

**Treasurer's Report - David Mann (CD '84)**

- **Bill Drennan**, please bring us up to date as Chair of our Membership Committee.

**Membership Committee Report - William Drennan (CD '02)**

- **Mike Deines** will now update us on the House and Communications Committee.

**House & Communications Committee Report - Michael Deines** (CD '03)

- **Joan Pantsios** heads up our Program Committee. Joan...

**Program Committee Report - Joan Pantsios** (CD '14)

- **Leslie Recht** is Co-Chair of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Fund Committee. Leslie..

**21<sup>st</sup> Century Fund Committee Report – Leslie Recht**

- **Ann Murray** is Secretary of The Cliff Dwellers Arts Foundation. Ann...

**The Cliff Dwellers Foundation Report** - Ann Murray (CD '02)

**Election of Directors** – William Bowe (CD '97)

- **Nominating Committee Report** - William Bowe (CD'97)

This year I was again chair of the Nominating Committee. We were charged with recommending the nominees to fill five upcoming board vacancies. The other committee members were:

**Bill Drennan**, our secretary (CD '02)  
**Leslie Recht**, past president (CD '03)  
**Charlie Hasbrouck**, past president (CD '09)  
**Walker Johnson**, past president (CD '84), and  
**Timothy Walser** (CD '16)  
**Eve Moran**, our current president, joined us ex officio.

The following members were nominated and have agreed to stand for to serve three-year terms that expire in January, 2022. In accordance with our bylaws, all of the names of nominees have been posted in the cloak room for the last month now.

**Philip Kurschner** (CD '03)  
**Edward Torrez** (CD '17)  
**Richard Reeder** (CD'13)

**Phil Kurschner** is an educator with a distinguished financial career behind him. In addition to his service as a past Director, he is also taking on the responsibility of co-chairing the Club's 21<sup>st</sup> Century Fund to rebuild our reserve.

**Ed Torrez** heads his own architectural firm and has filled a vacancy on our board for several months this year. He is looking forward to serving a full three-year term. You have already enjoyed his exceptional piano playing here at the Club tonight.

**Richard Reeder** is a lawyer by training but is now a spirited teacher of literature. As many of you know, he has led our Saturday book club for years.

Nominated to fill a two-year vacancy on our board expiring in January, 2021 is:

**Robert C. Newman** (CD '18)

**Bob Newman** is a retired lawyer I first met at the Members' Table at lunch last year. I was astounded to learn as I got to know him that after his service in Vietnam we had briefly overlapped when we were both assigned to the Army's 902<sup>nd</sup> Military Intelligence Group at the Pentagon in the late 1960's.

With **Tom Thorson's** departure to Philadelphia, nominated to fill the vacancy of his remaining term as a Director expiring in January, 2020 is:

**Andrew C. Fox** (CD '16)

**Andy Fox** will bring an exceptional set of management skills to our Board of Directors. I remember often being told when I was President of the Club (yes, as many of you may recall, that was the Golden Era), that what I was doing was completely wrong and no way to run a railroad. Andy actually runs railroads. He lives in a ninth floor condo in the Metropolitan Tower just a block south at 310 South Michigan Avenue. His living room is in the space that was formerly the Chairman's office of Encyclopaedia Britannica when I worked in that building in days past as General Counsel for Encyclopaedia Britannica. Unlike in my era at EB, he no longer requires those entering his living room to genuflect before entering.

As you can see, we have an exceptional slate to put before you tonight for approval. Is there a motion to elect these nominees?

- [So moved.] Is there a second?
- [I second.] All in favor signify by saying "Aye."
- [Aye.]
- Opposed?

The ayes have it. Congratulations! Would our new Director nominees all please stand so we can recognize you? Would our other Officers and Directors past and present please also stand? Thank you all.

## Concluding Remarks - William Bowe

I now recognize errors I've made in my life as a man. As a result, the cloak of being a Man's Man I've worn lightly on my shoulders for so long, today weighs heavily on me. I share this with you in hopes that others of you in the room of the masculine persuasion can perhaps avoid some of my mistakes. As I mentioned earlier, not long ago I was diagnosed with what the doctors call "Male Privilege Bias Patriarchal Domination Syndrome, with Associated High Levels of Toxic Testosterone."

For the women here tonight, I understand that's a highly technical term of medical science. That being said, I understand you probably don't need me to mansplain it to you.

I recall that when I was newly married, my wife asked me if I could take the garbage out and I answered, "Sez you and what army?" Shame on me!

Showing the more open and gentle feminine side of my personality these days, I now say to her things such as, "Thanks for taking out the garbage, dear." And, "Thanks for cleaning the gutters, dear."

Both of our two children also now tell me that I was way too authoritarian when they were growing up. Back then before meals, I'd say, "Achtung! Boys, stand up. Shut up. Face me. Raise your right arm in allegiance to your father. I'm going to now announce grace." Shame on me, again!

These days before a meal, I'll first lead the family in a chorus of Kumbaya, and then say, "Let's hold each other's hands and give thanks to the Lord for the food on our table. Let's also give thanks for the other blessings in our lives, blessings like professional football, buffalo wings and Beyoncé.

And also Lord, help us understand such abominations of modern life as concussion protocols, booth reviews, avocado toast, kale and the Kardashians."

Speaking of the Kardashians, and I'm not sure this is true, but I just heard that on New Year's Eve Kim Kardashian mooned Cleveland. Oh, the humanity! Think of the children scarred for life.

I still make mistakes at home. When my wife asked me what I wanted this past Christmas, I told her, "A red baseball cap that says, "Make America Great Again."

Instead, at a Toys R Us close out, she bought me a \$3 red plastic fireman's hat reading on the front, "Make Our Marriage Great Again."

I misread the whole thing fire chief hat thing, because later, when we were both enjoying a glass of wine by the fire, I turned to her and started making some serious moves.

I said, "Sugar pie, honey bunch?" "Yes, poopsie," she answered. I then gently put my hand on top of hers, looked deeply into her eyes, and asked, "Who's your Daddy now? Who's your Daddy now? I'm ready to light your fire right now girl!"

Frankly, it embarrasses me to report that she flew off the handle. It took me a full minute to restrain her and get the cuffs on. During this she repeatedly and unfairly called me a "demented pyromaniac."

And yes, that did hurt my feelings. I naturally apologized to her and said I'd do better next Christmas. And right away God bless her, everything seemed right as rain.

Well there you have it. Remember, what you hear at The Cliff Dwellers should stay at The Cliff Dwellers.

**Prize Drawings** (Calendars and Lunch and Dinner for Two) – **William Bowe** (CD '97)

**Introduction of Zivio!** – **William Bowe** (CD '97)

Mike Deines, will you come up and lead us in singing Zivio!? For those of you new to this perennial disaster, our Club song is actually easy to sing. It has only two words, “Zivio!” and “Mogaletto.” In theory, it’s really impossible to screw up, so put your heart into it.

- **ZIVIO!** - Michael Deines

**Continued Eating, Drinking and Merriment** – **William Bowe** (CD '97)

**Group Picture of Officers, Directors and Past Presidents** – **Larry Okrent** (CD '93)