

2018 Newyorker of the Year Presentation

February 2, 2019

In Punxsutawney, PA, a crowd awaits the arrival of a simple groundhog named Phil, to see if he sees his shadow and determine the remaining length of winter. However at the same time in a large field in Poughkeepsie , NY the past Newyorkers of the Year are standing around a hole in the ground, clothed in the ceremonial garb befitting the event. They have gathered to await the arrival of another groundhog, Finster that, if the stars have aligned, will reveal the 2018 Newyorker of the Year. It is said that if there is no significant effort made by any chapter member in the previous year, Finster will come out of his hole, thumb his nose and a blow a raspberry to the crowd. However, if there has been one individual who has gone above all others to encourage barbershop singing and strive for the overall health of the chapter and chorus, Finster will pop up and call out the name of the individual. While waiting patiently for Finster to come out of his hole, the past Newyorkers of the Year talk among themselves.

Eric: I wonder when Finster will present himself. I wonder if he'll announce the Newyorker of the Year or just give us the raspberry.

Steve: I don't know, we can only hope it will be soon.

John: I'd bet that if over the last year a Newyorker has taken on a board position that directly relates to the financial health and well-being of the chapter, that will avoid us getting the raspberry

Bill: And if there's one who takes on an important position in the chapter, one that reflects the brotherhood among the members, that of acknowledging birthdays and anniversaries by sending a simple card to remember the day, that will go a long way in his announcing a Newyorker of the Year.

Eric: And maybe if there's one who concerns himself with the performance attire of the chorus and works to develop a plan for new uniforms that will do it.

Steve: I've heard that if one adopts a method in which members and chapter patrons alike can easily pay for goods and services using their credit card that might be enough.

John: And how about him providing "lead", ership to the chorus that would go a long way.

Bill: And always being a member of the chorus at the Yankee Division contest.

Eric: You know, if he took it upon himself to arrange for the Installation Luncheon, that would do it.

Steve: Yes, but it would take all those things together to get Finster to announce a worthy member as Newyorker of the Year.

John: Wait, something's starting to happen. There's something stirring in the hole. I think it's finally time for Finster to appear. There he is. Oh no he's raising his hand to his mouth. Darn! Here comes the raspberry.

Bill: No wait, he's putting both hands up like he's going to yell something. I think this is it. Yes, he's shouting the name of the 2018 Newyorker of the Year.

ALL: Ernie Strauss