



The Voice of Mensa in New Hampshire and Maine

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New Hampshire Mensa

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The Fine Print

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Out of My Mind

LocSec Claire Natola

This month, I shall cede most of my column space in favor of publishing the essays from our 2006-2007 Scholarship winners. I will, however, take advantage of this opportune time to thank once again our outgoing Scholarship Chair Ed Stevens, and our three judges: **Rob Roy**, **Katja Swift**, and **Frank Matranga**. I am pleased to announce that Frank has graciously volunteered to serve as Scholarship Chair for 2007-2008, a position to which we appointed him at our last ExComm meeting. Thank you, Frank, for agreeing to take on this important job! If anyone would be interested in serving as a judge for the 2007-2008 competition, please feel free to get in touch with me or Frank using the contact information on the back of *Momentum*. And now, for this year's winning essays...

The winner of this year's Joe Zanca Scholarship is **Brittany Ray** of Milbridge, Maine, a graduate student in Counselor Education at the University of Maine at Orono:

Belly up, belly down, dark black, shimmering silver. Belly up, belly down, dark black, shimmering silver. Over and over the process goes. Day in, and day out, I stand at this table snatching the cold, dead herring. Without thinking, my arm sweeps more fish from the conveyor belt, and I quickly introduce the broad ends of their little bodies to my sharp long bladed scissors.

The above description is not from a scene in a Steven King novel or movie, though it did happen on the coast of Maine. At the age of ten, my summer memories of foraging for treasure in the tidal pools around my home, were replaced by the early morning whistles of a sardine cannery. Here I packed fish or canned herring for the next six summers. My father insisted that I work physical labor to instill in me the importance of an education. He wanted me to dislike the sweltering heat, the oppressive odor, and the dreadful hours of the sardine cannery that he managed, so that I would treasure every occasion I had to learn. Indeed, my father knew how to motivate me. I detested this monotonous and tiresome work. The only thing I enjoyed during these long summers was the sharing of stories and wisdom between the workers. Perhaps it was in those long summer days that I found my love for being with people, and I always knew I would some day work in an environment that allowed this same sharing of experiences and wisdom. Though difficult to recognize at the time, I was not just filling sardine cans, but rather they were filling me with a respect for hard work and a love for communicating and sharing ideas and dreams with others. What better preparation could there be for a future teacher?

Each year when the late August mornings turned cool, and I imagined I could smell a frost in the air, anticipation of the new school year filled my being. School was always a place where I belonged. After graduating from Narraguagus High School in 1989, I attended Colby College in Waterville, Maine. In 1993, with a Bachelor of Arts in English and a minor in Education, I graduated first in my class from Colby. I was eager to begin my career in the classroom. Many of my professors urged me to apply to graduate school, and I did so, but in all honesty, I *just* wanted to teach in a rural Maine classroom, much like the ones I attended. I wanted to give back to a small community area; after all, it was the nurturing environment of a small Maine school and community that gave me the confidence and sense of self I needed to succeed.

I was delighted to begin my career at Machias Memorial High School in Machias, Maine and then two years later join the faculty at my own alma mater, Narraguagus High School in Harrington, Maine. For the past twelve years I have had the privilege of working and learning with so many motivated and interesting students and colleagues. My classroom focus on connecting personally and meeting each unique learner at his or her own starting point is my greatest contribution as a teacher. In recent years I have had students who have dropped out of school and then returned requesting to study English in my classroom. I have had special needs students ask to have their first mainstreamed class be English in my room. Having a classroom environment that is welcoming, nurturing, and personally meaningful for each student is the ultimate achievement for me as a teacher. Now after over thirteen years in front of the classroom, I have returned as a student to further my education in the field of Counselor Education. I know that with my teaching experience and my passion for helping students realize their potential, School Counseling will be an excellent step as I continue my educational journey.

Our chapter's second-place winner is **Rachael Labitt** of Nashua, New Hampshire, who graduated this year from Nashua High School North and begins at Dartmouth College this month:

As a child, I decided to become a veterinarian. I dreamed of petting the furry cats, shearing the sheep and making everything better. I wanted to be a doctor who worked with cute things, the ideal job.

However, the rest of the world was determined to point out that being a veterinarian is really hard. A veterinarian must be absolutely brilliant, be willing to work strange hours with equally strange wages, and have a strong stomach. A weak stomach would be intolerable: imagine showing up to a surgery and being reduced to puking in the operating room. I made a conscious effort to see gross things, to see that I could handle the gore. I went to veterinary clinics and watched amputations. In anatomy class I dissected cats and centrifuged dog blood. Something silly like blood and guts could not keep me from my goal: I would become a veterinarian.

My dream has not changed. I look forward to the challenge of medicine and the challenge of patients who can't tell you what's wrong. I have taken numerous biology and anatomy classes in high school, and I plan to concentrate my undergraduate studies on animal science or biology. A very strong biological background is crucial.

I started preparing for my goal by learning whatever I could about biology. In fact, I often find that I want to know more than one person can possibly learn. In addition to science courses at school such as biology, zoology, and two years of anatomy and physiology, I have also taken a summer course in molecular biology at St. Paul's Advanced Studies Program. I volunteer weekly at a local humane society for hands-on experience with animals. My uncle lets me help on his farm to learn about agriculture and its impact on society and the earth. In a similar vein, I am also president of my school's Green Club, an environmental club that manages our school's paper recycling program. I'll continue to work hard so that I can succeed in biology and continue to veterinary school.

There are many possible concentrations within veterinary medicine. I have never lived out in the country, but I have become increasingly interested in large animal medicine. (Although a Newfoundland is considerably larger than a chicken, large animal medicine generally refers to food or production animals.) There is something amazingly gentle about a grazing cow, something joyful and energizing about a playful goat. More help ought to be given to the good people that raise these animals, the small farmers. They provide for our food, for our clothes, and for companionship. Local independent farmers are being driven further and further out of business. The projected shortage of large animal veterinarians means animal care would be too expensive or unobtainable for the small farmer. As agribusiness and the size of big business farms grow, individual animals tend to suffer, as do we. Huge packaging centers make it easy for contaminants such as e. coli to spread.

For farmers to have the resources to care for their stock, there is a substantial need for food and production animal veterinarians. As a veterinarian, I could satisfy their need along with my interest in medicine and animals. Although vet school is hard and grueling, the choice still seems a no-brainer.

The winner of the national Karen Cooper Memorial Scholarship is **Hannah Thompson** of Milford, New Hampshire, who graduated from Milford High School this year:

I have always wanted to be an astronaut. My personal launching point as a woman astronaut was my father's passion for astronomy. Whenever my father has our telescope out, I look through it and see the moon, the stars, and other planets and galaxies. I was fascinated by space as a child and this fascination has grown as I have grown. I have always wanted to travel in space to explore and experiment. A day spent at the Kennedy Space Center is

one of my favorite memories. Even if I never become an astronaut, I would ultimately like to work for NASA as an engineer. I have been accepted at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and Worcester Polytechnic Institute for college study commencing Fall, 2007. Both schools have aerospace engineering programs.

My summers have provided opportunities for me to pursue my interests in engineering and astronomy. During the summer of 2005, I attended a week long girls engineering program at Worcester Polytechnic Institute. I learned about different areas of engineering and science. It was the greatest feeling to meet and work with so many girls who had interests similar to mine. I liked this program so much that the following summer I attended a two week engineering program at Worcester Polytechnic Institute, where I studied physics. In physics class, I learned about black holes and how long it would take humans to travel to Mars. I had the opportunity to visit a radiation lab, and I performed various experiments with liquid nitrogen. During the summers of 2003, 2004 and 2005, I was able to attend Stellafane Convention in Springfield, Vermont, an annual weekend meeting of amateur telescope makers. I attended lectures on various astronomy and optics topics, learned about telescope construction, and observed the stars and planets with knowledgeable instructors.

During eleventh grade, I was nominated to represent my high school at a sixteen week Women in Technology mentoring program at BAE Systems. Guided by women engineers, I learned how to solder, which I greatly enjoyed doing. I also learned how to read resistors, how different types of assembly lines work, and worked with LEGO Mindstorm robots. I benefited from talking with women who work in the fields I would like to work in and hearing about their personal experiences as women engineers. Participating in this program confirmed my interest in pursuing a college degree in engineering.

My favorite subjects in high school are math, science, and computer science. I have taken the most difficult courses available. I enjoy solving mathematical equations, completing lab experiments, and creating computer programs. To reach my ultimate goal of becoming an astronaut, I will have to work and study diligently. My high school experiences have provided a foundation for successful college study and success in aerospace engineering.

Although I am focused on engineering and academics, I am a well rounded person. I strive to set a good example for others and be a good team member through my participation in school and community activities and through my paid and volunteer work, all of which I enjoy. I also play several musical instruments and have diverse musical interests. These qualities and skills will enhance my work in aerospace engineering and as an astronaut.

The winner of the national Grosswirth-Salny Scholarship is **Kelsey Walton** of Meredith, New Hampshire, who attends the University of Vermont Medical College in pursuit of her M.D.:

The summer of 2003 is when I truly came to understand why I wanted to become a physician. That summer, while training to become a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA), I also worked fifty or more hours per week as a community health rehabilitation aide and a special needs assistant.

My clinical training for the CNA program was at the Golden View Nursing Home where I learned to lift, bathe, and assist those who could not assist themselves. Though some of my patients could speak, the many who could not haunted me. As I bathed their wrinkled skin, I sensed their desire to tell me stories of their lives. I understood their indignity when needing assistance with personal care even while I struggled not to show aversion to the smells. I was introduced to the ravages of cancer, Alzheimer's disease and diabetes. I found myself wrestling emotionally with my patients' physical and mental decline.

I also worked at a group home for developmentally disabled young adults. My training included learning to give medication, respond to medical emergencies, teach life skills, and supervise community outings. I was not trained however, in how people might react to the disabled in public places. I was often challenged to teach my clients how to respond to being stared at or shunned. My job included overnight stays in the home for which I was paid less for the hours I was supposed to sleep. In reality, I did not sleep much.

I also worked as a special needs assistant for a boy with galactosemia, a genetic disorder that impaired his ability to learn. My job was to teach him basic educational and socialization skills. Some days there were successes. Some days there were not.

When fall arrived, I returned to college and worked hard toward my goal of attending medical school. My academic success landed me the "Sophomore of the Year Award", my research assistant work in genetics eventually became published, I was named "All Conference" in volleyball, and my volunteer work at a hospital continued. The rigors of time management I handled.

At unexpected moments throughout the year however, I found myself reflecting upon what I had experienced in the summer of 2003. In genetics class, I questioned what was being done to prevent cancer, galactosemia, and diabetes. On bus rides to volleyball matches, I would recall which of my elderly patients had been athletes and wonder how their lives could end in such a debilitating maner. In the lab, I found myself visualizing the long term results of our studies impacting the future lives of people.

I had begun to understand that being a physician is about more than my passion for the sciences, the human body, and my genetic research. The summer of 2003 challenged me to explore my ability to sustain emotionally as I cared very deeply for the patients I had worked with. I now realize it is actually that emotional connection that draws me into medicine. Being a physician for me is about having compassion for people, and it is about listening to people, even those who cannot talk.

I am now a first year, financially struggling, medical student at the University of Vermont. I would sincerely appreciate the support of the Mensa Education and Research Foundation in my endeavor.

RVC Column

Region 1 Vice Chair Lori Norris

September has always been one of my favorite months. Cool crisp evenings are a perfect time to enjoy the yard swing. Leaves begin to change color and the woods behind my house are different every day. And for us here in Region 1, the annual RG (regional gathering) season begins.

It's not too late to register for Mid-Hudson's Autumn In New York which takes place September 7 - 9 at SUNY Ashokan Field Campus, near Woodstock, New York. For additional information, go to www.mid-hudson.us.mensa.org/rg.htm.

October brings Connecticut and Western Massachusetts Mensa's MensAutumn. Even though this is my local group I don't think I'm biased. Last year's RG was memorable and, from what I have heard, this year's looks to be a winner as well. This RG is a bargain with rooms beginning at \$60 and an \$80 registration which includes Saturday dinner. Consider celebrating the "Fabulous Fifties" in Manchester, Connecticut from October 5 through 7. For more information, check out C&WM Mensa's website at www.cwm.us.mensa.org.

And it's not too early to register for Boston's RG "the Summer of Love" scheduled to begin on November 16, 2007. Information is available at <http://bostonrg.org/>.

With the beginning of September, students and teachers alike return to school; parents and students begin to think about financing college educations. Did you know that every year the Mensa Education and Research Foundation gives away an average of \$60,000 in scholarships? Scholarship essays are judged on the local, regional and national level. I have judged on both the local and regional level in the past and have always found it to be a rewarding experience. Emily Gordon of Greater New York Mensa has graciously agreed to be the Regional Scholarship Chairperson.

As I have mentioned previously, Rhode Island Mensa will be hosting a Leadership Development Workshop ("LDW") in May of 2008. RIM's own Tom Padwa is organizing this event and has also agreed to serve as the Regional LDW Coordinator and be a resource for future LDWs.

Later this month, the new Region 1 website is expected to "go live" under the guidance of Regional Webmaster Al Beecy. Check it out. Send your photos of Mensa events for inclusion in the regional photo album. I can only take so many pictures.

For my husband and me, August was a great month primarily due to our annual two-week vacation in Canada including camping, bicycling, some canoeing and the highlight of the trip, the Stratford Festival of Canada. You'd be surprised with how many newly purchased books we can squeeze into our small car for the trip home. Why do my favorite book stores have to be so far from home? Perfect timing - our trip up north just happened to coincide with Mensa of Northeastern New York's Annual Dinner in Plattsburgh so we stopped in for dinner. Also in attendance were Mensans from Vermont and nearby Quebec.

September Mensa activities for us will include: two book clubs; an AMC meeting for me and Mid-Hudson's RG for Ron; dinner at a marvelous Indian restaurant; lunch at a Japanese steakhouse; and probably another event or two. We tend to enjoy socializing with our Mensan friends.

Don't forget: National Testing Day is October 20th.

Lori



Notes from National

Make a Difference Day is a national day for doing something good. It is a day for volunteering, and conducting a community project. This year the day is Saturday, September 27th.

The activity is sponsored by USA WEEKEND Magazine. Information can be found at <http://usaweekend.com/diffday/index.html>. On the site you can find ideas for projects, and much more. The American Mensa website has a list of Community Activities Program award winners, dating back to 1999. You may be pleasantly surprised by the activities listed.

Please let others know about Make a Difference Day. If a project occurs, please let me know. I will be happy to assist, as appropriate.

Respectfully,
Michael Paul Beetham
Community Services Committee Chair
communityservices@us.mensa.org

Upcoming Testing Sessions

Tell Your Friends!

Information on testing and prior evidence can be found at nh.us.mensa.org. Anyone 14 or older who wishes to take the Mensa Admissions Test should pre-register with the respective proctor listed below, who can provide testing site information. The test costs \$40; a photo-ID is required.

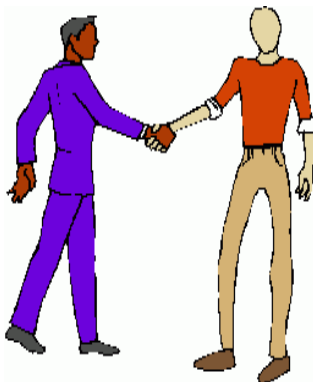
Proctor	Date	Location
Bromley Baril bromleybaril@comcast.net	Saturday, 15 September 10:00 a.m.	Portsmouth, NH
Bill Alleman 603-529-4446	Saturday, 29 September 10:30 a.m.	Weare, NH

Due to the advanced nature of deadlines there may be other testing dates that did not make it to press in time for this issue. Please refer to the NH Mensa website (<http://nh.us.mensa.org>) or contact the Testing Coordinator (see back cover for contact information) for more up-to-date information.

Welcome to NH/ME Mensa!

Raja Gupta
Edward T. Salesky
Michael K. Walker

Keene, NH
Hudson, NH
Jefferson, NH



Welcome back to Mensa!

Todd N. Tolhurst

Woolwich, ME



ExComm Minutes of July 17, 2007

Acting Recording Secretary Mark Becker

Voting Members Present: John Bauman, Yvonne Crocker, Wayne Eddy, Claire Natola, Tom Sheil, and Mark Becker.

Others Present: Bromley Baril, Al Church, John MacDonnall, and Mary MacDonnell

The meeting was called to order at 7:57 p.m.

Claire Natola reported that we have 303 members in New Hampshire and 163 in Maine, for a total of 466 members.

Claire Natola reported that the Joe Zanca Scholarship was fully endowed at the AG. Several fundraisers dedicated their money to Joe's fund, and it was matched by an anonymous donor. The subject was raised to ask Joe if his future efforts could be used for both his and the chapter's scholarships.

Frank Matranga agreed to become Scholarship Chair for 2008. Wayne Eddy made a motion to appoint him to the position. The motion was seconded by Yvonne Crocker. Motion Passed

Claire reported that she has contacted about 10 hotels for our RG. Only a few have responded as of today. Providing our own food continues to be a major issue with most hotels. John Bauman raised questions on the lack of an RG chair. Without a volunteer the issue was tabled until a further meeting. It was agreed to try to have a contract by 9/1 in order to have it vetted by National.

John Bauman reported the resignation of Rob Roy as Membership Officer. After the ExComm accepted the resignation John Bauman nominated himself for the position. Motion seconded by Wayne. Motion Passed

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Remember...

In order to meet printing deadlines, calendar listings must be submitted to the Calendar Editor (calendar@nh.us.mensa.org) by the first of the month *prior* to the month of the event. So, if you have an event in October, be sure to submit it for publication prior to September 1.



Letters & Emails

About twenty years ago my biking and swilling friend, Dave Holloway, told me to join him at a little get-together in Manchester. He told me there were a bunch of people who congregated once a month at Chestnuts to tell bad jokes and drink beer. He knew he had hit my two weaknesses. We toodled down in his beater which proudly sported about a quarter of a million miles. I walked into the Library, a room hidden in the basement of Chestnuts and found a roomful of you guys. I heard Gary Goodnight tell at least one good joke before he skirted off, leaving more than his share of the tab. I met Leah and Jeff and Tree and Tom and Betty and John, all at a different place in their lives. I heard so many great puns flying around the room. I tried to keep up with the technonerd's explanations of how things work. Faces and names from that night blur, but I relished every moment. Life changed that day.

Mensa was not the only way David changed my life. He taught me that philosophy and humor go hand in hand. He taught me that anything can be fixed, but only if one has a few 12 oz cans to make screws loosen or tighten more easily. He taught me that there are other sides to firmly held values. He taught me that a hearty laugh is the greatest reward in life.

David died of a brain tumor in June. He was a wonderful friend of 20 years. He introduced me to Mensa and to so much of what I am today. I loved the man.

Marty Capodice

Editor:

I recognize that there are persuasive counter arguments on the otherside of the aisle, but the latest IPCC report on climate change is scary with Dr. James Hansen of NASA and Al Gore both painting an even more bleak picture.

I started the Dirigo Energy Institute, or DEI, in early July as a non-profit R&D organization. Dirigo - the motto of the State of Maine -was an obvious choice for the name of an organization with a mission to lead the world in solving the global warming problem in which we are currently embroiled.

It will be DEI's position to acknowledge the worst case global warming scenario and develop new environmentally benign energy sources with an inherent ability to preclude a potential "tipping point" set of conditions from ever arising. The only disadvantage of such a FailSafe position is that a set of circumstances might arise under which DEI will be providing the world with cost effective and environmentally benign energy sooner, perhaps, than would be dictated solely by dwindling oil, natural gas, and coal reserves.

For a quick summary, DEI will research three discrete environmentally benign energy sources with each one intrinsically able to provide the world with all of its power needs. These three are a system of solar power satellites in geostationary orbit, farms of wind-wave converters extracting power from the 40 to 50 degree Southern Latitude band that sailors refer to as the "roaring forties," and Polywell Fusion - a new fusion method with a potential for near term development. The first two can get to the customer either over the grid or under a methanol distribution system that has been clearly identified but needs to be developed. These four concepts were introduced by scientists with impeccable credentials but, for various reasons, have never been brought to market so DEI will do everything in its power to provide funds for their proper growth.

If this sounds of interest, I have set up a web site at www.lowearthorbitnow.org to explain DEI in more detail. Be forewarned, however, that at this time the site consists of nothing but Words, Words, and more Words with the addition of Pictures, Pictures, and more Pictures scheduled for a later date.

I would be happy to respond to any comments, questions, or concerns any one might have with DEI.

Best regards,
Leon Neihouse
President
The Dirigo Energy Institute, Inc.
neihouse@gwi.net

Good Wine Cheap (and good food to go with it), By John Grover

OH MY GAWD! It's the attack of the killer tomatoes. My garden is overflowing with the things. Hmm, what will I do? The answer of course is tomato sauce and a good wine to go with it. There are few things that I look forward to with more enthusiasm than the fresh tomatoes of Summer. The secrets to this recipe are first the roasting of the fruit (the tomato) which brings out its natural sweetness; and second, scout them down or start growing them yourself, the fresh herbs.

The wine this month is the 2005 Zinfandel from Cline Cellars of Sonoma, California. This is a delightful red Zinfandel that starts with a rich berry aroma. The taste as it fills your mouth is distinctly black cherries. But perhaps its finest attribute are the supple and exquisite tannins that dance across the middle of the tongue. This wine is widely available for about \$10 a bottle. I got it as a part of a case for \$8. Such a deal!

Provencal Oven Roasted Tomato Sauce (from the Epicurious website; originally printed in *Gourmet Magazine*, August, 1998)

Ingredients: olive oil for brushing pans; 1 head garlic; 4 lbs vine-ripened red tomatoes (about 10 medium) (We use a Roma [or paste] tomato); 1 tbsp fresh rosemary leaves; 1 tbsp fresh thyme leaves; 3 tbsp fresh orange juice, or to taste (Based upon the reviews we skipped the orange juice.).

Preheat oven to 450°F. and lightly brush 2 shallow baking pans with oil. Separate garlic head into cloves, discarding loose papery outer skin but keeping skin intact on cloves, and wrap in foil, crimping seams to seal tightly. Cut tomatoes into 1/2-inch-thick slices and arrange in one layer in baking pans. Sprinkle 2 tsp each of rosemary and thyme evenly over tomatoes and season with salt and pepper.

Put foil-wrapped garlic in one of baking pans with tomatoes and roast garlic and tomatoes in upper and lower thirds of oven, switching position of pans halfway through roasting, about 35 minutes total, or until garlic is tender and tomatoes are slightly charred. Unwrap garlic and cool slightly. Peel skins from each clove and force pulp with warm tomatoes and herbs through a food mill fitted with small disk into a bowl.

Finely chop remaining tsp rosemary and remaining teaspoon thyme and stir into sauce with orange juice (or not). Season sauce with salt and pepper and reheat if necessary. Sauce keeps, covered and chilled, 4 days or, frozen, 4 months. Reheat sauce over low heat and reseason with orange juice, salt, and pepper. Makes about 3 cups, enough for 1 pound pasta.

I hope that you will contact me with your comments and favorite wines at jgrover@berk.com. I will be happy to share them with the broader Mensa group.

John Grover is a member of Mensa of Northeastern New York. He lives with his wife Sharon in the Hudson Valley of New York.

THE
ANTIQUARIAN
BOOKSTORE



WANTED: All publications of Mensa, Intertel, I.S.P.E., new or old. Especially need all pre-1980 Mensa *Bulletin*, NH/ME/VT/MA local publications, registers, other paper material and pins. Wanted for preservation and access for research to members of these organizations. I will pay \$ for your items, but donations greatly appreciated. Help preserve our past.

Actively BUYING/trading collections/accumulations of old and new books, magazines, comics, sheet music, postcards, photos, prints, music CDs, adult/erotica in all forms.

Bring to The Antiquarian Bookstore at 1070 Lafayette Road (U.S. Route 1, adjacent to old Yoken's Restaurant), Portsmouth, N.H. 03801-5408 or call Walter Wakefield at 603-436-7250. New Hampshire's largest used/rare bookstore since 1973. Over 1/4 Million volumes in stock. Usually open Monday-Saturday, 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. (Sometimes at club events -- call.) Thank You.

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A Sampling of Next Month's Events*



Friday, 05 October, 7:00 p.m.
Friday, 12 October, 7:00 p.m.
Sunday, 14 October, 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday, 17 October, 6:00 p.m.
Friday, 19 October, 6:30 p.m.
Sunday, 21 October, 1:00 p.m.
Tuesday, 23 October, 5:30 p.m.
Tuesday, 23 October, 7:00 p.m.

Temperance League, Manchester, N.H.
The Brady Bunch, Peterborough, N.H.
2nd Sunday Brunch, N.H.
North of Boston Dinner, Peabody, MA.
Winnepesupper, Tilton, N.H.
North Country Lunch, Bartlett, N.H.
Pre-FSM Dinner, Location TBD
FSM/ExComm, Location TBD

*Events are subject to changes of date, time, location or even outright cancellation, as life sometimes gets in the way. Don't forget to refer to next month's *Momentum* for the most up-to-date information.

Fall Mountain Climb

New England has wonderful mountains, enjoyable seashores, and lively cities. New England also has Mensa! This fall, we combine the mountain part with the Mensa part for a wonderful weekend!

This is when the crowds have gone and the chill has not yet arrived. This is the best time for wonderful hiking weather. The mountains are there for our enjoyment!

Once again our venue is Skiwheelers, David Heimann's ski club lodge in North Conway, NH (see "www.skiwheelers.org" for further information). The lodge is a lovely 19th century building, originally built as an inn. In the 1970s it was used as the location for the movie "Return of the Secaucus Seven". It is close enough to the center of North Conway to be easily accessible to all the shops and activities there, yet far enough away to enjoy the peace and quiet of the woods, trees, and country roads.

The weekend is low-key and basically unstructured. The one major piece of structure is; you guessed it, hiking! We generally have two hikes. One goes to a mountain peak or other destination worthy of a good day hike. The other takes a few hours over easier terrain to reach a viewpoint, waterfall or other point of interest. Of course, there's also the 'null hike'; a short walk or drive amidst the new leaves and flowers, some shopping (North Conway has a few places!), or relaxing around the lodge.

The weekend includes two nights' accommodations, two full breakfasts, Saturday dinner, and snacks and soft drinks (BYOB for anything stronger), for just \$60 per person. Registrations without accommodations are \$30 (North Conway has various hotels and lodgings, as well as some good nightspots).

We generally pick out the hikes on Friday night. The mountain hike leaves right after Saturday breakfast while the shorter hike leaves an hour or so later. For Saturday lunch, the hike groups stop at a store for people to buy sandwiches and the like before heading out on the trail. As for the cooking and housekeeping, we do them cooperatively using a chore sign-up sheet, which definitely increases the feeling of closeness and camaraderie.

To sign up and reserve a place, send a check for \$60 per person to David Heimann, 65 Cornwall St. #206, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130. You'll receive confirmation and directions to the lodge by return mail, e-mail, or phone call. If you have questions or need more information, call David at (617)524-4531, send him e-mail at heimann@world.std.com, or call Bob & Brendy Horn at (781)843-5581.

So here it is; wonderful weather, wonderful mountains, invigorating countryside, and Mensa friends, all in one wonderful weekend. Be sure to sign up early to guarantee a place!



Calendar of Events September 2007

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						01
02	03	04	05	06	07 Temperance League	08 Games Night Celebrat- ion of Life
09 Second Sunday Brunch	10	11 Dining Around Portland	12	13	14 Brady Bunch Fall Mtn Climb End of Summer Weekend	15 Fall Mtn Climb End of Summer Weekend
16 MA Bridge Night Fall Mtn Climb End of Summer Weekend	17	18 Pre-FSM Dinner FSM/Ex-C- omm	19 North of Boston	20	21 Winnipesupper	22
23 North Country Lunch	24	25 Portland Dinner and Pub Quiz	26	27	28	29 Games Night Sideway- s

Mensa members are welcome to submit calendar listings to the Calendar Editor (calendar@nh.us.mensa.org) before the first of the month prior to the cover date. ♦ Event hosts may petition the Executive Committee for funds to promote events via postcard to members within a proximate geographic area. ♦ It is NH/ME Mensa policy to avoid conflicts as much as possible, but no conflicts are allowed to group-sponsored events. ♦ Mensans, members of their household, and invited guests are always welcome at group-sponsored events. ♦ Hosts of home-based events reserve the right to restrict attendance due to space or other appropriate reasons. ♦ While our hosts endeavor to provide accurate directions, attendees are well-advised to use their mapping medium of choice to determine their own best routes. ♦ In addition to being proper etiquette, R.S.V.P.'ing makes logical sense; it helps the host plan for the proper number of attendees and allows you to be kept abreast of any changes or cancellations.