



The Voice of Mensa in New Hampshire and Maine

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New Hampshire Mensa

Send all correspondence to:

Officer Name
New Hampshire Mensa
P.O. Box 1474
Concord, NH 03302-1474

The Fine Print

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Etched in Stone

LocSec Deb Stone

It's that time again - time to write a column. It's the last day of March and I'm sitting looking out the window at snow falling. Days like this one are the reason I have said in the past that people who live in the north-east should be able to hibernate through March. It's grey and cold and raw and generally miserable - but they say that tomorrow will be a harbinger of spring with temperatures as high as the low 60s. Showers as well, but that's ok. Maybe things are looking up; the days are longer and the snow piles are starting to shrink at least a little bit here in southern/central NH. I'd like to think that I might just be able to get into my shed before the end of the month (I always try to look on the bright side.)

The deadline for voting in our bi-annual officer elections will be just a few days away by the time you receive this issue. This is your chance to help determine the future of your local Mensa group; make sure to get your ballot back by the May 10th deadline!

As I mentioned last month, we are coming up on another deadline, this one to submit bids (in our informal bid process) to chair the 2009 New Hampshire Mensa Regional Gathering. Your best opportunity to actually present a bid is at this month's ExComm meeting, which will be held on May 20th. If you are interested in presenting a bid, or in helping out, or just in more information, we would love to see you at the meeting. We hope to make the final decision at the June ExComm meeting, so all bids must be in prior to that. Any member of the ExComm will be happy to answer your questions (or refer you to someone who can) about what needs to be included in a bid, historical information you may require, etc.

And speaking of RGs and gatherings, we have two great events coming up in the next couple of months. The second weekend of May will see many of us down on the Cape at the Cape Cod Getaway Weekend. This is a kind of unstructured gathering, with no formal speaker program or events, but lots of time to socialize, dine, drink, shop, play games, hike, swim, play golf or just relax and stare at the ocean. It's a weekend I wouldn't miss for just about any reason and I hope to see you there. The other upcoming event is the 2008 Annual Gathering, to be held in CO in just a couple of months. Are you registered yet? If you have been to an AG, you know why you should be going again this year. If you haven't ever been, you don't know what you are missing! Some of my best Mensa memories come from AGs past; some of my best Mensa friends as well. It will be an experience you won't forget.



RVChat

Region 1 Vice Chair Lori Norris

Happy May!! Time to get the summer toys out of the attic. Bicycles have been tuned-up and we have taken a few rides in between the rainy and windy days of April. Now is time to get the kayaks down and into the bay. We have sit-on-top kayaks so we have the thrill of sitting in the cold water as we paddle, but have actually gotten into the water with them as early as Mother's Day weekend at the Cape Cod RG. I don't think we'll be kayaking quite that early this year, but by the end of May we'll get wet.

If you're reading this column before May 2 it's not too late to consider attending at least a portion of the Leadership Development Workshop being held May 2-4 in Warwick, Rhode Island. Call me if you are interested. Walk-ins are welcome. For further detail see the RIM website: <http://www.rhodeisland.us.mensa.org>.

Last weekend I attended the March AMC meeting, held in San Francisco. Did you know that you can review the agenda prior to the meeting and the minutes following the meeting? Go to the Inside AML page of the national website and look under the subheading AMC & Appointees. I always welcome your comments on the agenda as I would like to know what you think about the topics up for discussion. At the AMC meeting, the TeenSIG coordinator gave us a short presentation on Mensa membership as seen from the teen point of view. Since the youth are our future, I do believe that Mensa does need to do as much as possible to capture the interest of gifted children and teens. Since this was my first trip to San Francisco, I did make some time for sightseeing. Check out my pictures on the Region 1 website. Of course, after taking the red-eye home, I paid for that sightseeing time the next day.

As of the end of our membership year, March 31, 2008, AML had a total of 56,006 members. Don't forget to renew your membership if it expired last month. You may want to think about a multi-year membership to reduce cost and eliminate the necessity for renewing annually.

A New Member Benefit: American Mensa has partnered with the YTB Travel Network. I have reviewed this website and they seem to have either comparable or slightly better pricing than some of the other travel websites and American Mensa receives a portion of the commissions paid to YTB. Before planning your next trip, perhaps to the Denver AG, check out this website: www.us.mensa.org/travel.

Lori



Treasurer's Report

Submitted by Wayne Eddy

Cash Balance at April 1, 2007 (all accounts including Checking, CDs, etc.)	\$10,962.48
Revenue:	
Dues & Testing income from Mensa	\$ 5,848.14
Events total Income (RGs, etc.)	\$ 8,549.57
Interest Income	\$ 126.31
Member Contributions	\$
Other Income	\$ 230.00
Total Revenue	\$14,754.02
Expenses:	
Advertising, PR & Marketing	\$ 165.68
Awards	\$ 700.00
Bank/Credit Card Fees	\$ 259.77
Events Total Expenses (RGs, etc.)	\$ 7,980.79
Newsletter (incl. Postage, Printing, etc.)	\$ 2,653.25
Supplies	\$ 234.11
Testing	\$ 615.40
Total Expenses	\$12,609.00
Total Cash, March 31, 2008	\$13,107.50

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.

Date	Proctor	Location
10, May 10:00 a.m.	John Bauman 603-883-7494	Portsmouth, NH
17, May 10:30 a.m.	Bill Alleman 603-529-4446	Weare, NH
21, May 7:00 p.m.	John Bauman 603-883-7494	Nashua, 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.

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.



ExComm Minutes of Mar. 18, 2008

Recording Secretary Liz Modesitt

Voting Members Present: John Bauman, Mark Becker, Yvonne Crocker, Anne Majeske, Liz Modesitt, Tom Shiel, and Deb Stone

Others Present: Elizabeth Becker, Barbara Lowrey, David Melville, Walter Wakefield and Ric Werme

The meeting was called to order at 8:06 pm

There are 355 members in New Hampshire and 182 members in Maine, for a total of 537 members. This is an increase of 4 members from last month.

Wayne Eddy gave a brief report on RG Finances and will have a full Treasurer's Report next month.

The ballots for LocSec and Member-at-Large are in the April Momentum. They are due by May 10, 2008. When and where the ballots will be counted by the Nominations/Election Committee is TBD.

Membership Officer John Bauman reported that the recent trend is for people to sit on offers of admission once they have received them. He is sending out e-mails checking in on people who have received offers but not yet joined. Of the six people who tested at the RG in February, four of them were offered admission.

There may be an issue in the future in terms of the number of proctors in Maine, due to qualified proctors moving away or not having time to devote to it.

The Maine Gifted Children's Coordinator Brian Stacey has moved to Hampton, NH. Brian will continue in this position for now, but there may be a problem once Maine becomes independent.

A person from Maine has been added to the Officer's E-mail List, for the purpose of seeing how it works.

Deb Stone will look into the possibility of people from Maine attending the upcoming Leadership Development Workshop in Rhode Island. All members of the Ex-Comm were encouraged to attend, as well.

The Nashua Radisson would like to have us back next year for the RG. Deb Stone is talking with them and attempting to possibly negotiate a contract.

There were several notes from National regarding MERF fundraising, CultureQuest Registration, Project Inkslinger, and other matters.

Mark Becker introduced a motion to adjourn, Tom Shiel seconded it, and it passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:20pm



A Sampling of Next Month's Events*

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Friday, 6 June, 7:00 p.m. | Temperance League, Manchester, N.H. |
| Friday, 6 June, 5:00 p.m. | First Friday, Portland, ME |
| Sunday, 8 June, 4:00 p.m. | Winslow Supper, ME. |
| Sunday, 8 June, 10:30 a.m. | 2nd Sunday Brunch, N.H. |
| Friday, 13 June, 7:00 p.m. | The Brady Bunch, Peterborough, N.H. |
| Saturday, 14 June, 10:00 a.m. | Impolite Company, Durham, ME |
| Saturday, 14 June, 6:00 p.m. | Games Night, Bristol, N.H. |
| Tuesday, 17 June, 5:30 p.m. | Pre-FSM Dinner, Bow, N.H. |
| Tuesday, 17 June, 7:00 p.m. | FSM/ExComm, Bow, N.H. |
| Wednesday, 18 June, 6:00 p.m. | North of Boston Dinner, Peabody, MA |
| Tuesday, 24 June, 6:30 p.m. | Dinner & Quiz, Portland, ME. |
| Friday, 27 June, 7:00 p.m. | Menstel, Portsmouth, N.H. |
| Saturday, 28 June, 10:00 a.m. | Impolite Company, Durham, ME |

*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.

Spring Mountain Climb

North Conway, N.H.

May 30-32*, 2008

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

This is a big occasion; the 30th anniversary of the Mountain Climb! In the spring of 1978 David Heimann completed his first season as a member of Cannonball Ski Club in Franconia, NH (a wonderful ski season for snow; think Blizzard of 1978!). Wishing to continue his outdoor fun and activity into the spring, he put a calendar notice in the Beacon for Mensan friends to come up and share the lodge for a hiking weekend in May. Ten people responded, had a great time, did it again in the fall with another great time, and you know the rest!

The venue has gone through several ski club lodges, a tennis camp, and an AMC lodge. We have returned to a ski-club venue, Skiwheelers Ski Club, David's current 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.

May, 2008 9

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, great people, and 30 years of Mensa history, all in one wonderful weekend. Be sure to sign up early to guarantee a place!

*Well, this date is really June 1, but the Spring Mountain Climb generally takes place in May!



Notes from National

More than 210 Mensans gathered in Phoenix this weekend for Mind Games 2008. During the three-day event, members played and rated 54 board and card games. The top five games have earned Mensa Select distinction and may use the Mensa Select seal on their games.

The winners are:

AmuseAmaze (HL Games, www.hlgames.com)

Eye Know (Wiggles 3D Inc, www.eyeknowgame.com)

Jumbulaya (Platypus Games, www.platypusgames.com)

Pixel (Educational Insights, www.educationalinsights.com)

Tiki Topple (Gamewright, www.gamewright.com)

Mind Games 2009 will be held April 24-26 in Cincinnati. To register, visit www.mindgames.us.mensa.org.

Planning a vacation -- to the AG in Denver or otherwise? Got a business trip coming up? Or just need to get away this weekend? American Mensa is partnering with the YTB Travel Network to provide an entire Web site, www.us.mensa.org/travel, to handle all of your travel-related needs. At this fully integrated site, you can:

- Book your flight, hotel and car for any trip;
- Search for cruise deals, international vacation packages and last-minute getaways;
- Process online flight check-in;
- Track traveler health advisories, passport requirements and airport delays;
- Sign up for a weekly "deals & steals" e-newsletter;
- Purchase flowers and concert tickets; and even
- Set up a honeymoon travel registry.

Not only can you take care of all your travel arrangements in one location, but every time something is purchased through www.us.mensa.org/travel, American Mensa receives a portion of the commissions paid. Enjoy your trips and don't forget to save our American Mensa Travel icon to your desktop!!

Good Wine Cheap (and good food to go with it)

By John Grover

Several members of our gourmet club recently spent a week on the Island of Curacao in the Caribbean. After a week of beaches and golfing, they were inspired to host a Cuban dinner in honor of their favorite restaurant on this otherwise Dutch island. The food was excellent; but, the dessert our friend Donna made below was so extraordinary that it must surely make the angels weep. Cafe con leche is the traditional "latte" that many Cubans drink for breakfast. It combines a strong espresso coffee with steamed milk and sugar.

This month's wine is the 2006 Snoqualmie Riesling from Washington State's Columbia Valley. This wine is termed off dry with 5% residual sugar. Yet the sweetness is well balanced with a crisp acidity. Snoqualmie Vineyards has achieved a luscious blend of tastes including pear, apricot and spice with this wine. While not a true dessert wine, it will go well at the end of a meal with a cheese course or the dessert below. This wine is a real find at only \$8 to \$9 a bottle.

Cafe Con Leche Custard (as reprinted on the TasteofCuba.com website)

Ingredients: 4 tbsp cornstarch, 3 cups milk, 1 cup heavy cream, 2 & 1/2 tbsp instant coffee powder (Donna used instant espresso powder), 1 cup sugar, 2 eggs, whipped cream, chocolate covered espresso beans for garnish

Stir cornstarch into 1 cup milk, stirring until smooth. In top of a double boiler, pour the cornstarch mixture and the rest of the milk, cream, instant coffee powder, and sugar. Stir over medium-high heat until thickened. Cover and let simmer 10 minutes.

Beat the eggs well. Slowly add 1 cup of the hot coffee mixture to the eggs, beating continually. Pour egg mixture into remaining coffee mixture in the double boiler, still over heat, and beat well to incorporate. Cover and simmer 2 minutes.

Remove from heat and pour into coffee cups. Cover with plastic wrap, leave to cool and then refrigerate. When chilled, top with fresh whipped cream and 1 chocolate covered espresso bean (shaved chocolate on top is a nice alternative). This recipe serves 4.

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.



Calendar of Events

May 2008

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				01 Deadline for June events	02 Temperance League First Friday Art Walk	03
04 Boston Brunch Bunch	05	06	07	08	09 Brady Bunch	10 Ballots Due!! Impolite Compan- y
11 Second Sunday Brunch Winslow Supper	12	13	14 Ballot Counting Meeting	15	16 Winnipesupper	17 Nashua Temp League Games Night Boston MOG
18	19	20 Pre-FSM Dinner FSM/Ex-C- omm	21 North of Boston Dinner	22	23 Menstel	24 Impolite Compan- y
25	26	27 Portland Dinner & Pub Quiz	28	29	30 Spring Mountain Climb Weekend	31

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.