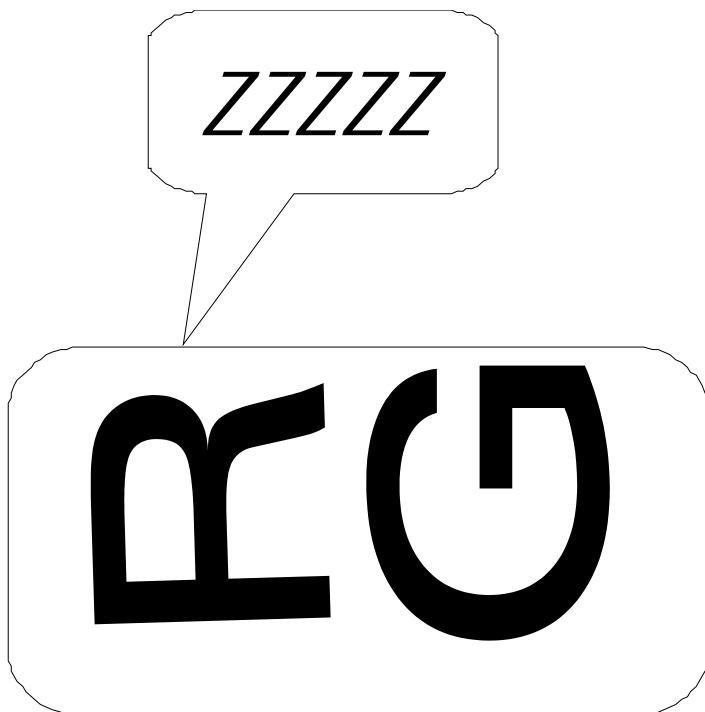




The Voice of Mensa in New Hampshire and Maine

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A common post RG feeling rendered by the editor.



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The Fine Print

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Momentum logo by Matthew DeSmith



Etched in Stone

LocSec Deb Stone

It's the first Sunday (and the first day) in February, and I'm sitting here waiting for the Super Bowl and thinking about all of the things I have to do in the next two weeks.

First comes a business related trip to FL for a couple of days – to talk about the workers' compensation insurance assigned risk pool in NH. I bet you're sorry you missed it, aren't you? Next comes the trip my mother and I are taking to NYC to go to the Westminster Dog show. I think I mentioned this in a previous column – we bid on the trip at the Animal Rescue League of NH annual Live & Silent Auction (their main fund-raiser each year.) The trip we bought includes three nights in a Manhattan boutique hotel and reserved seating to both days of the dog show. We're both really looking forward to it; I'll tell you about it in a future column.

Then, in less than two weeks, we'll all be congregating to enjoy the 2009 NH RG. I know that when I write about the RG for my next column I will be able to talk about how much fun we all had. I really hope that you were there to enjoy it with us, but if not there's always next year! And, to put in a plug, the AG is only a few short months away.

Last for now, but certainly not least – the soon-to-be independent ME Mensa election is over and resolved. Ballots went out to all our members in ME, and included a chance to vote on adoption of new bylaws for the group as well as the one contested ExComm position: Treasurer. Our own NH Treasurer, Wayne Eddy, came over to my house on Friday night to open and tally the ballots. I was quite impressed that almost 25% of the ME members cast a ballot (that's a pretty good percentage.) Unfortunately, of those that we received, about 20% of those we received had to be disqualified for not following the ballot instructions (can you say re-test?) Of the remaining thirty-three ballots, the results were as follows:

Bylaws	Yes	32	No	1
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Treasurer was a little more interesting. As we tallied I kept saying "Boy, this seems awfully close!" When we were done counting we had this result:

Nessman	14
Conary	14
No vote	5

Now we faced a dilemma. Neither Wayne nor I was quite sure what rules applied at this point. NH Mensa rules? Minimum standard bylaws? Some other national rules? The only one I know it wasn't was the new ME bylaws since they aren't quite

in effect yet. I called Lori Norris (our RVC) but she was out. I ended up calling Dan Burg (2nd Vice Chair of the AMC and guru of bylaws) who confirmed that we needed to do an unbiased tie-breaker – so we flipped a coin. And the winner is ... Nessmann!

So ME now has a complete ExComm, bylaws approved by the membership, and unless something drastic happens, by the beginning of April we will once again have an independent (and enthusiastic) ME Mensa. Congratulations!

Maine Mensa Update

Congratulations, Maine Mensans! We had an approximate 20% of our members vote on our By-Laws and Officer elections. That is an outstanding voter turn-out! So ... here are your duly elected officers:

Anne Allen , LocSec; Sue Flaherty, Asst. LocSec; Gerald Nessman, Treasurer; Kevin Tremblay, At-Large. Terms start April 1, 2009. At that point, we'll try to get the appointed positions arranged and let you know how that is going.

The Maine By-Laws require we publish a newsletter quarterly. Monthly, we'll send out calendar postcards for reminders of events. Our focus will be on a high level of web, email, yahoo groups, etc. to keep in greater contact. Hopefully the majority of our members will opt for electronic means for receiving our newsletter and monthly updates so we save on postage. Because we are such a small group, there are no bulk incentives for us.

Blah...blah...blah... get to the fun stuff.

I have just finished my Proctor training, so you can expect some regular testing in the 'Bermuda Triangle' of Maine ...the Brunswick, Lewiston, Portland areas. After participating in 4 sessions in December and January – I can tell you that these months will no longer be a focus for us in Maine. For the testing in Topsham, I ran into a tree and drove through a massive snowstorm. Hopefully the guy who walked to the testing gets offered membership. What a trooper!

It is a very exciting time to be a part of Maine Mensa. If you want to be on the 'Short List' emails, let me know. If you want to make sure your email address is correct so you can at least be on the 'Update List', contact me also.

Anne W. Allen
Loc Sec Maine Mensa
locsec@me.us.mensa.org
207-577-6362



RVChat

Region 1 Vice Chair Lori Norris

Okay, March has arrived. When does Spring begin? I'm anxiously looking forward to it. This has been a long winter in Rhode Island, much more snow than usual. 2009 started with a bang for me, okay more like a whimper. On January 1st, the last day of our vacation in Mexico, I fell off a sidewalk and badly sprained my ankle. Well at the end of January I learned that I didn't just sprain it, I fractured it. As a result, my mobility has been limited for some time. But the most pleasant surprise was the courtesy of complete strangers. On January 2nd we flew home from Mexico. Fortunately, the airports provided me with wheelchairs. Porters would let us cut lines and, obviously, it took more time to get through security. People were extremely courteous and, even though it was the height of vacation travel season, didn't seem to mind us cutting line. They seemed more concerned that I was alright. Since my injury many people, friends and strangers, have been extremely helpful. Restores my faith in humanity.

In case you haven't heard, American Mensa's election season is approaching. As no one choose to run against me, I have been declared the winner for the seat of Regional Vice Chairman (RVC) for a second term running from July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2011. If you're interested in running for the position in 2011, please feel free to discuss the job responsibilities and pleasures with me. I have enjoyed being your RVC and look forward to another two years. There will be several bylaws amendments on the ballot this year. These amendments are available on the AML website and will be included on the ballot and in the Bulletin along with pro and con statements. Should you have any questions relating to these amendments, I am available to discuss them with you.

Upcoming Events: Boston Mensa's Cape Cod weekend will be held the second weekend of May. And for those of you near New Jersey, see you at Snowball XXXV, March 6th – 8th (the 10th anniversary of Ron and my first date, we'll be there celebrating.) The 2009 CultureQuest® will take place on Sunday, April 19th. Reservations can be made until March 31, 2009. Mind Games® will be held in Fort Mitchell, Kentucky the weekend of April 24 through 26. The Pittsburgh AG (Annual Gathering) will be held July 1 – 5 in Pittsburgh, PA. This is probably the most convenient AG to Region 1 since the Philadelphia AG in 2000. Check out AML's website for more information on any of these events.

Lori



ExComm Meeting 18 Jan. 2009

Recorded by Deb Stone

ExComm members in attendance: Deb Stone, John Bauman, Wayne Eddy, Tom Shiel, Ann Majeske, Mark Becker, Yvonne Crocker

Also in attendance: Ric Werme

Called to order at 5:14pm

Membership	NH (371), ME (189) for total of (560)
<u>Treasurer</u>	no report
<u>Young M</u>	no report
<u>Gifted Children</u>	no report
<u>Scholarship</u>	deadline for essays is this month, judging to take place in February

Membership John reminded the ExComm that National has had considerable success recently in getting lapsed members (often long-lapsed) to rejoin. Deb mentioned that since we are approaching the end of the membership year and will be looking at some percentage of lapsed members, anything we can do to keep people or get them back is useful – so she will look into the techniques National is using, and will also talk to Lori Norris (RVC1) about anything she can contribute. Also, John reminded us that we are low on Membership Handbooks – Mark will e-mail a pdf copy to the ExComm to evaluate any updates/changes. John will e-mail a pdf where possible while we determine the changes and reprint.

John made a motion to give a \$10 discount on RG rates to anyone who has become a new member since the last RG. Wayne seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Deb is doing a mailing to former RG attendees who are not registered; she will also mail to the new members offering the discount and encouraging them to register.

Testing John reported on the ongoing testing contest; if we can double the number of testees in January 2009 over January 2008 we get double remuneration from National. We need to test 8 to qualify; we are at three so far with several more scheduled through the end of the month so hope to make it. ME has one newly certified proctor (Martin Perfit) and should have another one (Anne Allen) after she completes her second observed testing session at the RG. Their other proctors are not really active right now. Also, prior evidence evaluation is discounted from \$40 to \$25 through 06/30.

ME Mensa Report Votes for their election and bylaws are due by the end of January. We have received approximately fifty vote submissions and will arrange counting in February.

VT Mensa Report VT had their first live event today (brunch) – very successful with seventeen attendees. Other events are scheduled in upcoming weeks. Also, their

first newsletter is out.

RG Report

Holly was not able to attend meeting, but Deb gave update. Meeting with hotel is 01/19 to set room layouts (Deb, Holly, Elizabeth.) Hotel is still housing Lowell students, so we will have to be very vigilant, badges will be required in all RG locations. Registration is running a little behind normal, but we do have several first-time registrants already. Deb is sending out confirmations to those already registered and mailing to unregistered former attendees to remind them to register (also to new members as noted above.) Program is coming along fine.

New Business

Deb reported on dates of upcoming events: Culture Quest (04/19), Mind Games (Cincinnati 04/24-26), 2009 MTD (10/17), PRP deadlines at end of February, beginning of March. New Mensa partner benefit is a travel related site (www.us.mensa.org/travel). Wayne brought up a Momentum ad that has expired; it was printed in February Momentum (for free) but won't be in March unless we receive payment.

Meeting adjourned at 6:01pm.



St. Patrick's Day
March 17th



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
21, March 10:30 a.m.	Bill Alleman 603-529-4446	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 inside back cover for contact information) for more up-to-date information.



Letters & Emails

To the Editor:

As a new member (well, recently rejoined member), I have found communication with the group more difficult than it needs to be. I concur with John Lewicke's Letter in the February Momentum encouraging the group to move communication online. The current website appears to have grown organically over time, as many do, and consequently turns up 404 Not Found pages, missing or out of date information, etc. Why not create a NH Facebook group? Facebook allows you to screen group applicants, while enabling easy updates to the group about events, etc. There may be a better solution even than this; I'm no techie. Thoughts, anyone?

Thanks for listening!

Alex



News from Members

I was sorry to see the name of another local member in the "Memoriam" section of the latest Bulliten. Alyse L. Corson of Skowhegan Maine was a member of Mensa International, teacher, tax investigator, and involved with stage productions across the country. Also, and most importantly, she was a proud parent, grandparent and great grandparent.

There is a link to the remembrance of her life that she wrote at <http://tinyurl.com/dkrpz5>.

Our sympathy goes out to all those she has left behind.



Spring Forward!
Daylight Savings Time
Begins March 8th
2:00 a.m. forward to
3:00 a.m.



Gifted, ADD, or Both Part III: The Challenge

by Fran Tishkevich

A second look at the previous two articles may lead one to think: but all those traits of ADD... they describe many gifted kids! Yes... but... When learning and other life activities are negatively affected by these traits... then it could possibly be ADD.

Being gifted does help some students cope with ADD, especially in the early grades. Sometime during middle or high school, and definitely by college, the giftedness will no longer be sufficient. Gifted kids can compensate for some of the difficulties of ADD until the pressures and excessive freedom of the higher grades become too much. By college, the increased work load, more personal freedom, and too much free time can converge to a point where a student who had previously managed to succeed, or slide by by wits alone, realizes that it is more than he or she can handle alone. It is at this time that many college students seek assistance from their school clinics, for the first time wondering if they have ADD.

Limited information is available about students who are both gifted and ADD. This leaves parents and teachers to wonder, could it be ADD that is causing the student to not sit still, or to daydream and look out the window? Or, is it because the student is gifted and bored? Telling the difference between the two can be difficult at best. Astute, understanding teachers can help. Students, and their parents, have found that classroom situations got better or worse entirely because of a particular teacher. That is, the teacher is a major influence on the success or failure of gifted kids who are also ADD.

What can the teacher do? The effective teacher recognizes that ADD students have the ability to succeed (unless there is a specific, underlying learning disability). ADD is a disorder in performance, not skill. The real nature of ADD is not doing who you know, rather than not know what to do (DuPaul & Stoner, 1994).

Since teachers play such an important role in the success or failure of gifted ADD students, what can they do in the classroom? The following are suggestions for teachers (and parents). While I understand that teacher have very little time to focus on individual student needs, it has been found that strategies for teaching students who have ADD, benefit all students, as well (Marone, 2002). In other words, effective teaching benefits all students.

Suggestions for working with students who are ADD and gifted (Turk & Campbell, 2002).

- Assign projects which make multiple demands on student's organizational skills.
- Avoid repetitive tasks such as "more of the same" or repetitive homework that is not challenging.

- Understand that ADD students may not do homework every night, but they might still be very successful with in-class assignments and tests.
- Recognize the difference between work that is essential for learning and work that is trivial or unimportant.
- Allow the student to modify the academic structure to better suit his or her learning style.
- Help the student to focus on a few things and do them well.
- Remember that ADD students have difficulty accepting delayed gratification.
- Have high expectations for the student.
- Remember that ADD manifests itself somewhat differently from one student to the next.
- Be aware of the relationship between ADD and substance abuse.

In the end, with the assistance of parents and teachers, it is up to each student to take responsibility for his or her success and to learn to help him or herself by recognizing what works and what does not. "Having potential" and the great love of learning that can be seen in young gifted kids makes these kids especially aware of the wonderful things that can be learned in school with a bit of assistance and guidance.

References

DuPaul, G. & Stoner, G. (1994). *ADHD in the schools: Assessment and intervention strategies*. New York: Guilford Press.

Marone, D. (2002). *Teaching students who have learning disabilities: Strategies for faculty, tutors and learning instructors*. Available: www.dolphin.upenn.edu/~lrcenter/sds/word/Teaching_Strategies.doc

Turk, T. & Campbell, D. (2002 Fall) What's wrong with Doug? *Gifted Child Today* 25, 48-59.



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Notes from National

The International Election Committee has received the following nominations for Mensa International's 2009 International Board of Directors election. Names for each position are listed in alphabetical order; incumbents are indicated with a capital I preceding their country.

International Chairman:

Willem Bouwens (The Netherlands), Jim Werdell (I - USA)

International Director of Administration:

Sylvia Herbert (British Isles), Stacey Kirsch (I - USA)

International Director of Development:

Bibiana Balanyi (Hungary), Tim Knights (South Africa)

International Treasurer:

Deborah Theasby (British Isles), Godwin Zwanenburg (I - The Netherlands)

Look for your international ballot and voting instructions with your April/May Mensa Bulletin. Your ballot should be returned to its specified address by the date included with those materials.

To vote in Mensa's national or international elections, you must be a current member as of April 1, 2009. To renew your membership, visit www.us.mensa.org/renew before midnight CT, March 31, 2009 or mail your membership renewal to be received by COB on 3/31.

The nomination period is now officially closed. Here is the final list of candidates for the 2009 election. Individuals marked with "N" were nominated via the Nominating Committee process; those marked with "P" obtained the requisite number of petition signatures in order to run.

Deborah Henry

Election Committee Chair

ElectionChair@us.mensa.org

Chair

Elissa Rudolph (N/P)

Dave Swanka (N)

Secretary

Guy Conti (N)

Heather Poirier (N)

First Vice Chair

Dan Burg (N/P)

Cookie Bakke (N)

Treasurer

Cyndi Kuyper (N)

Cary Chilson (N/P)

Second Vice Chair

John Recht (N)

Craig Thighe (N)

RVC 1

Lori Norris (N) - unopposed, declared elected

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A Sampling of Next Month's Events*



Friday, 3 April, 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, 12 April, 10:30 a.m.

Sunday, 12 April 4:00 p.m.

Friday, 10 April 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, 11 April, 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, 18 March, 6:00 p.m.

Friday, 17 April, 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, 19 April, 4:00 p.m.

Friday, 24 April, 7:00 p.m.

Temperance League, Manchester, N.H.

2nd Sunday Brunch, N.H.

Winslow Supper, ME

The Brady Bunch, Peterborough, N.H.

Games Night, Bristol, N.H.

North of Boston Dinner, Peabody, MA

Winnipesupper, Tilton, N.H.

FSM/ExComm, Bow, N.H.

M & I, Portsmouth, N.H.

*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.



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Calendar of Events

March 2009

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
01 Deadline for April events	02	03	04	05	06 Temperance League	07 VT Ice Fishing & Fish Fry
08 Second Sunday Brunch Mid-Maine Dinnah	09	10	11	12	13 Brady Bunch	14 Games Night SSecond SSaturday
15	16	17	18	19	20 Winnipesupper Japanese Dinner	21 Nashua Temp League
22 VT Sunday Brunch	23	24	25	26	27 M & I	28 Indoor-Ou- tdoor party
29	30	31				