



The Voice of Mensa in New Hampshire (and a helping  
hand for Maine)

Vol. 28 No.10

May 2009



*Photo from the Fall Mountain Climb submitted by David Heimann*

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# New Hampshire Mensa

**Send all correspondence to:**

*Officer Name*

New Hampshire Mensa

P.O. Box 1474

Concord, NH 03302-1474

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*Momentum* logo by Matthew DeSmith



## Etched in Stone

### LocSec Deb Stone

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Have you renewed? March 31<sup>st</sup> was the end of the membership year and as usual, there are a fair number of you who haven't sent in your dues yet. I like to think that there is something in Mensa membership for everyone – whether it's attending events, reading the newsletters, being involved in a SIG, having a network of people all over the country and the world who will accept you and welcome you, joining a Culture Quest team, being involved with MERF or one of the myriad of other things one can do. Don't lose touch with a great community!

It's May, which means it's time for Boston Mensa's Cape Gathering. This is one of my favorite gatherings of the year. It's spring on the Cape, which means the weather can be wonderful – or horrible. (We have had the occasional monsoon!) It's before the big influx of tourists that hits in the summer, so the roads and places to visit aren't quite as crowded as they will be in a few weeks. There's no formal program, which means time to do anything one wants without feeling at all guilty about missing something important. We play games, we walk on the beach or play golf or visit Provincetown, and we have lots and lots and lots of conversation. Hope to see you there.

Now that I have mentioned an event from a neighboring group, let's talk about some of ours. Come try out one of the Temperance Leagues. Go to a Games Night, or try Sunday Brunch one month. I know that attendance has been down at WinnipeSupper and we would hate to have that disappear – so give it a try! And we are always happy to see people at FSM/ExComm – more hands make the FSM part less busy for all of us, and in May there will be a Business Meeting as well as an ExComm Meeting. The meetings are going to continue to be on Sunday afternoons (at least for now) and I always try to have some pretty good snacks. Or, if none of those appeal to you, start your own event! We are always looking for more things to do, whether it's a one-time thing or a new regularly scheduled opportunity to have some fun.

I guess that's it for this month. I'll be looking for you!



## Maine Mensa Update

The first ExComm meeting was held Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup> at 1pm at the home of Gerald Nessmann in Dexter, Maine. All of your elected officials were present.

Here is a synopsis of the meeting which lasted over 2 ½ hours: If you would like a copy of the official minutes, please email me and I'll send it to you. If you are on the Short List - you already have the whole thing.

Other attendees: Martin Perfit, Scott Cayouette, and Robert Lagos.

Martin Perfit was appointed to the voting position of Recruitment and Testing Chairman. Martin will also act as Proctor Coordinator. Kevin Tremblay was appointed to the Editor position. Pat Washburn was appointed to the WebMaster position. Kate Masters was appointed as Ombudsman subsequent to the meeting.

Our checking account has been opened at Bangor Savings Bank. Our mailing address for business mail is: P.O. Box 184, Topsham, Maine 04086.

A motion was made and passed to have our first quarterly newsletter in July 2009.

A motion was made and passed to have proctors compensated at \$6 per tested individual.

A motion was made and passed to authorize the Treasurer to accept scholarship funds for one or more scholarships granted by Maine Mensa, separate and apart from any National Scholarship funds.

Other items discussed but not resolved were: mini-RG in Fall of 2010; Budget; new proctors; designating a Gifted Children's Coordinator; Newsletter names.

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.

Anne W. Allen  
Loc Sec Maine Mensa

[locsec@maine.us.mensa.org](mailto:locsec@maine.us.mensa.org)





# RVChat

## Region 1 Vice Chair Lori Norris

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If April showers really bring May flowers, we are going to have an abundance of flowers this year. As I sit here writing this letter, it is pouring outside. But hopefully the sun will come out before Easter weekend and spring break. Since Ron is a teacher and has that week off, we've been planning a trip. Well, I broke my leg (tibia) on January 1st (Happy New Year) and our plans to head out to Nevada and do some hiking in the dessert have been put on hold. I am recovering from the broken leg and can get around pretty well with just a brace most of the time, so we've decided to head down to Washington, DC for a few days. I haven't been there since I was a child. I do remember some of the sights and seeing the Hope Diamond. We plan on spending a few days exploring the Smithsonian and some of the memorials around town.

Congratulations MAINE MENSA! As of April 1st, Maine Mensa became a fully independent local group.

And the exciting news in Mensa is that as of March 31st, the last day of our membership year, total membership reached 57,835 – an all time record. As you all probably know, we always have a significant drop on April 1st as we wait for renewals. Hopefully, most of the lapsed members will renew and our numbers will continue to increase throughout this year. If you know of any lapsed members encourage them to renew.

I hope everyone caught the CBS Sunday Morning on March 22nd. Leslie Stahl and a 60 Minutes film crew taped a piece at the Denver Annual Gathering; which, due to other news was never aired on 60 Minutes. CBS Sunday Morning aired that segment in its entirety, about 20 minutes. If you have not had the opportunity to see it, it is available on the CBS News website (<http://www.cbsnews.com/video/watch/?id=4882603n>). The story portrayed Mensa in a favorable light and has generated a significant number of inquiries into membership. Let's see if we, here in Region 1, can use these inquiries to increase our membership. I've also heard from a few long-time members who have used this as an opportunity to become more involved.

Boston's Cape Cod RG is coming up the second weekend of May. The weekend is unstructured and gives you an opportunity to enjoy the Cape before the summer crowds arrive. We'll bring our bicycles and, hopefully, get some cycling in. And with the advent of spring, picnics and other outdoor events are showing up on the calendars.

*Lori*

May, 2009 5



# ExComm Meeting 22 March 2009

## Recorded by Deb Stone

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Deb Stone's house

Call to order 4:23pm

In attendance: Deb Stone & Sammi, Ann, Tom, John B., Yvonne, Wayne, John Lewicke  
... Mark, Holly, Richard late

Membership #s 382 for NH, 194 for ME

ME official as of 4/1

Deb will have membership handbook next month; No other membership info

RG – we made between \$500 and \$1,000 but still a few outstanding items before final numbers

Testing – John tested Wed (only 1 person); Bill test 5 in Weare on 3/21; John tested in Portsmouth (3) Sat; Meg Broadhead has reinstated, means another proctor in Keene

Leslie Stahl report on Sunday Morning (John has had 4 e-mails this am): John feels somewhat negative but it does look like it generated some interest; others liked the report

John Lewicke presented thoughts about how to have more of an online presence including a dynamic calendar. There are several issues – do we need a different web host? What are the privacy issues? How do we promote the online calendar? Can we actually have more real-time interaction between members? Is there something from National we can plug into? Bauman moves formation of a study group, second from Majeske, unanimous vote. Lewicke will work with Bill, Sue and others to look into what's possible and report back to ExComm at future meeting. John B moves study group (John I, Bill, Alex, Sue, etal) to explore making website more interactive; Ann seconds, unanimous

RG info from Holly; list of items we need at event venue to send to chambers of commerce, etc.; get additions, changes to Holly by 03/27 and then it will be sent out.

Meeting adjourned at 5:48pm



# Treasurer's Report

## Submitted by Wayne Eddy

### NH Mensa Annual Financial Report

<b>CASH BEGINNING BALANCE @ April 1,2008</b>	<b>\$13,107.50</b>
<b>Add Revenue</b>	
Dues & Testing from Mensa	\$6,798.12
Events	\$9,468.72
Investment Income	\$99.10
Member Contributions	\$0.00
Other Income	\$415.00
Total Revenue	\$16,780.94
<b>Less Expenses</b>	
Advertising, PR & Marketing	\$1,269.03
Awards	\$1,610.88
Bank & Credit Card Fees	\$0.00
Events	\$8,390.36
Newsletters	\$2,146.22
Supplies	\$74.28
Testing	\$865.19
Total Expenses	\$14,355.96
<b>CASH ENDING BALANCE @ March 31, 2009</b>	<b>\$15,532.48</b>
<b>CASH PER STATEMENTS @ March 31</b>	<b>\$15,532.48</b>
<b>Add Outstanding Deposits</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Less Outstanding Checks</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>ADJUSTED CASH ENDING BALANCE</b>	<b>\$15,532.48</b>

## Spring Mountain Climb May 15-17, 2009 North Conway, N.H.

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

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

The Mountain Climb will take place at David Heimann's ski club lodge, Skiwheelers Ski Club, located in North Conway, NH (see "[www.skiwheelers.org](http://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 'no 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.david@gmail.com](mailto:heimann.david@gmail.com), or call Bob & Brendy Horn at (781)843-5581.

So there 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!



## Apology from the Editor



This "I'm really sorry." goes to Ronnie McIntire of Peterborough NH, who should have been listed in the **Welcome to Mensa** page last month.

Please do not take it personally, my finger just must have slipped when typing your name and I filled it in with the other Ronnie last month (Ronnie Oliver). Who would have guessed we'd have two new members with the first name Ronnie, and the last names in alphabetical order?

Welcome to New Hampshire Mensa, and enjoy your membership Ronnie.

Mark Becker  
Editor  
MomentuM.

THE  
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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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# Notes from National

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This year's election cycle is important, especially because of the large number of bylaw amendment proposals being placed before the membership. While most of the pro and con statements I wrote for the March issue of the *Mensa Bulletin* should suffice to fully inform your vote on those particular proposed amendments, Amendments #9 and 8 require a bit more. I'm pleased your editor both has sufficient space and clearly believes that national issues deserve a place in your newsletter.

Proposed Amendment 9 revamps American Mensa's "justice system." One of the largest drawbacks in the current system is the National Hearings Committee (NHC)'s dependence on the American Mensa Committee (AMC). The people who create the rules (AMC) are tied to the people who judge members on them, too. Amendment 9 seeks to remove the AMC from the latter part of the equation. Wholly independent individuals (local group Ombudsmen) will sit on the NHC.

Generally speaking, Ombudsmen are chosen because they are seen as fair, well-reasoned, capable of good judgment, knowledgeable of the rules in place (or at least where to find them), and able to apply those same rules. Clearly, these attributes are essential in bringing two sides of an ongoing dispute to compromise. However, this compromise, which a few seem wary of, is in the context of coming to a mutually agreed upon resolution for ending the situation, not determining the underlying facts. The "offending party" either committed a specified act or didn't, and they are either within or against the rules. Determining the facts of a local dispute are essential for all Ombudsmen to help guide any possible compromise; similarly, determining facts is needed within a national hearing.

Being a good negotiator and not alienating anyone from the group is arguably more difficult than merely stating "not guilty" or "guilty" to each "charge," giving a rationale for each such determination, and levying appropriate punishment for someone found guilty. After all, something akin to the first two determinations need to be made by an Ombudsman when he is attempting to mediate a dispute before it escalates. If an Ombudsman can work with two or more parties to a dispute in his local group, he is clearly capable of coming to a judgment involving other local groups' disputes, if called upon to do so.

Furthermore, no poll was ever conducted of the local group Ombudsmen as some would have you believe. A casual question was asked on the largely dormant Ombudsman's e-mail server and, as typical, few spoke up at all. There were multiple people on both sides of the issue, as Mensans are wont to be. Also note, at a discussion group preceding the Annual Business Meeting (ABM) open to all attendees of the 2008 AG, several people came forward to volunteer to be their local group Ombudsman specifically because of the proposals being brought to the ABM and the hope it engendered in them.

Finally, while an earlier version of Amendment 9 (which itself had “publicly”-solicited input) was voted down at the 2008 ABM, all the concerns raised at the ABM were incorporated into an updated version, which is Amendment 9, currently up for your vote – it is NOT the same proposal as was at the ABM; do not be misled. Also, this current version was approved at the grass-roots level to be placed on the ballot, having received over 250 petition signatures nationwide. No such concern, courtesy or even implicit solicitation of input was given to the membership with regard to Amendment 8. That amendment was created by the AMC-appointed Hearings Process Review Committee (HPRC) chaired by the NHC chairman (who doesn’t exactly have a fresh or independent eye to review how the NHC works) and approved by the AMC for balloting. While the HPRC and the AMC would have you believe Amendment 8’s procedures for hearings are independent of the AMC, their arguments are disingenuous at best. Amendment 8 retains strong AMC influence over the hearings process, since the AMC appoints the individuals on the review panel and the variable number of people eligible to serve on the NHC.

To cleanly break from AMC influence over national hearings, vote YES on 9 and NO on 8. Since these two amendments conflict with each other, if both pass with the necessary 2/3 majority vote, the one with the higher percentage voting in favor will be the one implemented. This is why it is essential to make sure to vote YES on 9 \*and\* vote NO on 8. For more information on Amendment 9 not addressed here, go to <http://www.amyx.org/mensa/hearings/petitions> and look at the FAQ for the second petition. E-mail me with any questions about the amendments.

Jared Levine, [boxmaster@alumni.williams.edu](mailto:boxmaster@alumni.williams.edu)  
Life Member, Metropolitan Washington Mensa



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## RG News



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As promised, here is (at last) the recipe for the winning Minestrone Soup from the Second Annual “Great Crock Pot Cookoff.” The winning recipe was prepared by David Melville

one large onion, chopped	1/4C garlic	2 lbs hot sausage
8 lg potatoes, diced	6 carrots, chopped	6 stalks celery, chopped
1 lb mushrooms, chopped	1C chopped cabbage	1 lg can baked beans
1 lg can diced tomatoes	1 sm can tomato paste	1 lg can tomato sauce
8 C chicken broth	6 bay leaves	2T italian seasonings (to taste)

First, fry the sausage, then cut into disks about 1/4" thick. Using the oil from the sausage, sautee the onions and garlic until softened, then add the carrots, celery, cabbage, and potatoes. Stir frequently over high heat for about 5 minutes, then add remaining ingredients. Bring to a boil, then turn heat to low and simmer for an hour, until potatoes are softened. Add salt to taste, serve with fresh bread. This is enough soup for a large gathering.

2009 INTERTEL Annual Gathering September 16—20, 2009  
at beautiful Ogunquit, Maine ANNOUNCEMENT:

On the Ocean just 20 miles north of Portsmouth, New Hampshire, just off I-95, on US Rt. 1 at the Admirals Inn ( see [www.admiralsinn.com](http://www.admiralsinn.com) for photos & info). We are taking over the entire building known as the 'New Inn' with three floors & easy handicap accessibility and elevator. Beautiful rooms, all with queen or king beds, some two each. On site included: refrigerators in each room, some with fireplaces, jacuzzis. Also heated swimming pool, gym, laundry, AC/heat, kitchenettes in some rooms, WiFi, offstreet parking. Few minutes walk from downtown quaint shops & dining at many restaurants; as well as famous Perkins Cove with lobster boats, boat trips, drawbridge, cliff walk, art shops, etc.

Rates: \$450. double occupancy (\$900./room), \$650. single. Under 12 no charge if 2 adults in room. This INCLUDES 4 nights (ability to check in 11AM, out Sun. til 3PM!), ALL inhouse food (11 meals!) by our Chef & Hospitality Staff (as well as hot dish 24/5!), beer, wine, all non-alcoholic drinks; Professional Musician on-site (bring your Instruments, sing, etc.), all taxes. No other costs inhouse whatsoever. Premises in adjacent building has cafe/bar open til 1AM every night. We prefer attendees stay in the Inn rather than day-attend. Registration open not just to INTERTEL members; but, prospects, guests, family members and MENSA members.

Payments to: INTERTEL, P.O. Box 965247, Marietta, Georgia 30066-5247. Credit Cards: Send card #, Expire Date, Vcode # on back.

Boston's Logan Airport is 75 miles with shuttle service hourly via C&J Limousine (800) 258-7111 to Portsmouth; Portland, Me. Airport has twice-daily bus service 33 miles; Manchester, NH Airport 65 miles, no public trans. Rental cars available in all 4 cities by multiple facilities.

Produced by Walter Wakefield, Region 2 Director for INTERTEL.  
TollFree INTERTEL Phone: (877) 436-7250. email:  
[walterswakefield@AOL.com](mailto:walterswakefield@AOL.com). or write: Walter Wakefield, 1070  
Lafayette Rd., Portsmouth, NH 03801-5408.

We look forward to seeing you!

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# Upcoming Testing Sessions

## Tell Your Friends!

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Information on testing and prior evidence can be found at [nh.us.mensa.org](http://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.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Proctor</b>	<b>Location</b>
2, May 10:00 a.m.	Anne Allen 207-577-6362	Biddeford, ME McArthur Library
2, May 2:00 p.m.	Anne Allen 207-577-6362	Topsham, ME Mid-Coast Church
16, May 10:30 a.m.	Bill Alleman 603-529-4446	Weare, NH
23, May 9:30 a.m.	Martin Perfit <a href="mailto:martinlp@aol.com">martinlp@aol.com</a>	Hampden, ME Edithye Dyer Library

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.



*Another Mountain Climb Photo submitted by David Heimann*

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# Calendar of Events

## May 2009

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					01 Temperance League Deadline for June events	02
03	04	05	06 Dine Around Portland	07	08 Brady Bunch Cape Cod Mini-RG	09
10 Second Sunday Brunch Mid-Maine Dinnah	11	12	13	14	15 Japanese Dinner Spring Mt. Climb	16 Nashua Temp Going Away Lunch Games Night MidCoast ME event
17	18	19	20	21	22 Winnipesupper	23
24 FSM/ ExComm VT Brunch	25	26	27	28	29 M & I	30
31						

For more events, and the most up to date information, check our online calendar at: <http://nh.us.mensa.org/cal/webcal.htm>