



The Voice of Mensa in New Hampshire

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The Fine Print

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Material for publication must be received by the first of the month preceding the cover date and will be used at the Editor's discretion. Maximum length for the printed version of *Momentum*: 1,000 words. Longer submissions may be considered for the electronic version of *Momentum*. All submissions are subject to editing. Anonymous submissions will not be accepted. Submissions may be published anonymously or under a pseudonym if the Editor determines that circumstances warrant it. All letters received by the editorial staff will be considered for publication unless otherwise specified by the writer. Submission grants New Hampshire Mensa permission to publish in any medium.

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Momentum logo by Matthew DeSmith



Etched in Stone

LocSec Deb Stone

Another summer is just about over – I can't believe it! We're fast approaching the 3 year anniversary of my arrival back in NH after 6 ½ years in southern California. Of course, part of the disbelief comes from the fact that we didn't have much summer this summer (at least in June & July.) Rain, rain, rain I love rainy days, but only in juxtaposition to a few sunny ones as well. The crab grass and weeds are winning the battle in my yard, and mushrooms are growing everywhere. The area out in front, that's wet in the spring but dry in the summer – is wet all the time. And the mosquitoes are everywhere!

But on the bright side, about the time the September Momentum is being mailed I will be leaving on a road-trip with a friend to drive out to far, far, far northern CA to deliver a car that is going from my mother to my niece. We'll be making stops all along the way, to see a few places but even more people. And we'll be meeting friends to spend a couple of days and nights at one of my all time favorite places – Lake Tahoe. There aren't many prettier places in the world!

Mensa items going on include all of our regular monthly events here in NH as well as great activities in our neighboring groups. As I write this we are very close to signing a contract with the hotel for our 2010 RG, so by next month I should be able to provide all of the info for you to get your registrations in early! We're always looking for people interested in helping out – for the RG or with the local group. I have mentioned open positions before in my column; please get in touch if you are interested in becoming more involved.

Finally, a word about Mensa membership and programs. I believe that you will find one or both of the local scholarship essays elsewhere in this issue (depending on how much space Mark had.) The Scholarship Essay program is a great program, and we're thrilled to continue to support it every year. You'll be seeing info about the next contest before too long. Next month (October) is the month for our annual Mensa Testing Day. We'll be publishing a schedule of testing sessions during the month in various places, and if you know anyone who is interested, encourage them to take part! We all know what we get out of being Mensa members – for me, it's all about the people I have met and continue to meet. As the cliché goes, "some of my best friends are Mensans!" Whatever the benefit an individual gets from being a member, they can't get it at all without joining, and MTD is a great time to start!



RVChat

Region 1 Vice Chair Lori Norris

September brings with it some exciting testing news: Free GMAT prior evidence review – tell your friends and family. For more details, see AML's web site. In addition, pre-paid vouchers for testing are now available on the web site. By purchasing pre-paid vouchers, proctors can be freed from collecting cash at testing sites.

Is your local group participating in the Mensa Foundation Scholarship program? Now is a good time to contact your local chair and volunteer to help out. If your local group is not participating in the scholarship program, now is also a good time to begin discussions with your ExComm to participate in the future. I feel that the scholarship program is one of the things that Mensa does well.

The next AMC (American Mensa Committee, or the national board of directors) meeting is being held in Arlington, TX the fourth weekend of October. The agenda should be available on the Inside AML web site in mid-September. If you have any questions or concerns that you would like to have discussed, please contact me. That weekend will include the annual planning meeting. Go to www.us.mensa.org/planning to review the planning process to date and see how you can participate OR e-mail any comments directly to me.

Next month begins the northeast's RG (regional gathering) season with CTWM's MensAutumn being held the weekend of October 16-18 followed by Boston's Pilgrimage beginning on November 20th. Hope to see you at one of them.

A Leadership Development Workshop (LDW) is planned for the first weekend of October near Albany, New York. The primary focuses of this LDW will be Gen Y, Gen X participation and family events. Please contact me for additional information.

Following the 2009 Annual Gathering in Pittsburgh, Ron and I traveled to Canada and participated in the 2009 Mensa Canada AG held in Ottawa, Ontario, a beautiful city. It is amazing how quickly new friends are made within Mensa whenever we travel. We look forward to seeing some of these folds at the 2010 joint American and Canadian AG to be held in Dearborn (near Detroit), Michigan during which we will be celebrating the 50th anniversary of North American Mensa. We finished up our summer vacation with a few days in Petawawa, Ontario and then some time in Quebec. While in Quebec, we found a small bed and breakfast housed on an exotic meat farm. I fed bagels to buffaloes the first morning; they were very friendly buffaloes but the young were shy. And then on to Montreal to visit some Mensa friends.

In August, we were thrilled to attend a weekend open-house in Ripley, Maine and meet more Maine Mensans. A great time was had by all. I look forward to hosting a Friday games night at our home in September as well as getting back to hosting the Mystic, CT dinner.

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
19, Sept. 10:30 a.m.	Bill Alleman 603-529-4446	Weare N.H.

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.

"Mensautumn" sponsored by
Conn. & Western Mass. Mensa
Oct. 16 - 18, 2009

Celebrate Mensautumn 2009 with the members of Conn. & Western Mass. Mensa! The theme is "All Things October" and is a celebration of Autumn in beautiful New England.

We'll be at the Super 8 Motel, 20 Taylor Street, Manchester, Conn. Call 860-643-1864 for Super 8 room reservations. The standard King room is available for \$70 per night by requesting the Mensa rate.

The RG registration is \$65 per person until Sept. 15 (\$80 thereafter). Children under 12 are half the adult rate at the time of registration. The registration covers an entire weekend of fun, food, beer tasting, poetry, great speakers, dancing, games, tournaments, good company, and many more surprises.

Please supply name, address, phone, email, and the number of attendees along with a check made payable to C&WM Mensa RG. Mail to Ann Polanski, 1406 Durham Road, Wallingford, Conn. 06492.

We hope to see you there!

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ExComm Meeting 19 July 2009

Recorded by Deb Stone

In attendance: Mark Becker, Tom Shiel, Ann Majeske, Wayne Eddy, Yvonne Crocker, Deb Stone (ExComm members), Ric Werme, Elizabeth Becker, Holly Geen, Richard Conde and Sammi the Wonder Dog. Adam Smargon (late arrival)

Called to order 4:40pm

Membership:

1. NHM members 331
Prospects 12
2. Mark will mail postcards and send me confirmation so I can file for reimbursement

Scholarship:

Local scholarships to go to Jamie Lynn Padham (\$500) and Lynn Guimond Findlay (\$300) Wayne moves, Yvonne 2nds, vote unanimous.

Deb will request confirmation of enrollment, invite them to Aug event for presentation, and send info to Wayne for issuance of checks once appropriate.

No Report – Treasurer, Young M, Gifted Children

Photography Policy: Table discussion until August meeting. Deb to forward Eric Postpischil's letter to ExComm for review prior to August meeting.

ME Funding: Wayne has not found documentation of \$\$ received from ME. Deb to follow up with RVC1 to see if there is documentation at National or in RVC files. For further discussion at August meeting.

RG Update:

There are several more items we want to insert or change in the hotel contract. Items discussed included: discount for suites? Specific mention of alcohol? Room availability at Mensa rate prior to and after RG weekend? Moving furniture? Booking through consolidators, etc? 4pm check-out of Salon(s)?

Deb will work with hotel to finalize. Wayne moves, Tom 2nds to give authority to Holly/Deb/Elizabeth to commit to contract, subject to AMC review, after items are addressed.

FSM/ExComm Meeting Time:

Discussion of meeting time for ExComm & FSM. Attendance at Sunday afternoon meetings is problematic for some ExComm members. After discussion, will start in September with 6:00 Pre-FSM Dinner and 7:30 FSM/ExComm. This will help to

accommodate Tom (work schedule causes problems). Deb will send new time to Sue for the calendar.

Good & Welfard:

John Bauman made honorable mention in Proctor of the Year contest. Congratulations!

Adjourned 5:38pm.



Business Meeting July 19, 2009

Recorded by Deb Stone, LocSec

In attendance: Mark Becker, Tom Shiel, Ann Majeske, Wayne Eddy, Yvonne Crocker, Deb Stone (ExComm members), Ric Werme, Elizabeth Becker, Holly Geen, Richard Conde, Adam Smargon and Sammi the Wonder Dog.

Called to order 5:40pm

Old Business: None

New Business: Bylaws Amendment
Introduced by Deb, some discussion of a couple of editorial changes.

Wayne moves, Ric 2nds, vote 10 for, 0 against, Adam abstains to forward as amended

Deb will forward to Bylaws Committee

Adjourned 5:45pm.



Letters & Emails

Letter to the Editor,

Mighty Mensan Uncle Al (Orange County, CA) requests your help. The Foundational Questions Institute has an essay contest, "What is Ultimately Possible in Physics?" Visit and rate Uncle Al's entry, "Pursuing the Limits of Failed Symmetry" about twelve down the list. Thank you!

<http://www.fqxi.org/community/forum/category/31416>

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Alan M. Schwartz

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A Sampling of Next Month's Events*



Friday, 2 October, 7:00 p.m.

Fri-Sun 2-4 October

Friday, 9 October 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, 10 October, 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, 11 October, 10:30 a.m.

Friday, 16 October, 4:00 p.m.

Saturday, 17 October, 6:p.m.

Tuesday, 20 October, 7:30 p.m.

Friday, 23 October, 7:00 p.m.

Temperance League, Manchester, N.H.

Fall Mt Climb, N. Conway, N.H.

The Brady Bunch, Peterborough, N.H.

Games Night, Bristol, N.H.

2nd Sunday Brunch, N.H.

Winnepesupper, Tilton, N.H.

Nashua Temperance, Nashua, 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.

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.

Paid Advertisement

Fall Mountain Climb October 2-4, 2009 North Conway, N.H.

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. Not only is this the best time for wonderful hiking weather, but it's also the time for wonderful leaf colors!

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" 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, 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!

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 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. or write: Walter Wakefield, 1070
Lafayette Rd., Portsmouth, NH 03801-5408.

We look forward to seeing you!



NH Mensa Scholarships

The Winning Essays



Every year, NH Mensa takes part in the national Scholarship Essay contest, and also gives its own local scholarships. We are proud to present the winning essays chosen by our local group, and are sure that you will see not only why they won but also the high caliber of the entries. Congratulations to our local winners! Deb Stone - LocSec.

1st Place Local Winner Jamie Lynn Padham

During my sophomore year at the University of New Hampshire, I made the decision that I would continue my education after obtaining my bachelors degree in the field of Kinesiology: Exercise Science. Because I love working one-on-one with people and enjoy working in a rehabilitation setting, I concluded that for me a career as a physical therapist would be ideal.

As an undergraduate at the University of New Hampshire I participated in the honors program, obtained concentrations in both psychology and nutrition, and became a teaching assistant. I began volunteering at Healthsouth Physical Therapy in Durham, New Hampshire over the 2006-2007 year. For my senior internship during the summer of 2008 I worked at Acadia Sports Rehab in Bangor, Maine. I enjoyed learning about all the different therapy techniques and appreciated how the therapist connected with each of his patients. A quality therapist can always find fun and innovative ways to help patients progress during therapy, challenging both herself and the patient. Not only is the job enjoyable, but it is very rewarding to watch patients progress and reach goals they may have never thought possible. I am excited to take the knowledge that I have obtained at UNH and apply that in a physical therapy setting. I feel that by furthering my education, and pursuing a doctorate in physical therapy at Husson University, I would have the chance to help people live better, pain-free lives.

I feel that at Husson University I will be able to get the experience and quality education that I am looking for, with a focus on clinical and research experience. After I get my DPT I would like not only to work as a therapist, but also focus on education. I have a love for teaching and I would eventually like to become a professor. I am currently working at Mayo Regional Hospital in Dover-Foxcroft, Maine as a Health Educator for the Piscataquis Public Health Council. I am enjoying working in an educational position, and the presentation and communication skills I am learning at this job will serve me well for when I become a professor. I am passionate about getting people excited about education and health, and I am excited to begin the graduate portion of my education.

2nd Place Winner Lynne Guimond Findlay

By the time you read this, I will be “half a lawyer.” Like my classmates, I will have completed three of the six semesters required to earn my degree. But unlike most of them, I will also have (1) been practicing law shoulder-to-shoulder with colleagues, instructors, area attorneys and judges, and real-life clients, (2) gained a level of comfort and competency in the courtroom, and (3) been exposed to various practice areas. I will have taken depositions, written interrogatories, and performed other tasks that most law students simply do not have the opportunity to do. I will also be automatically admitted to the New Hampshire Bar, without having to sit for (and pass) a grueling two-day exam. All because of my participation in the Daniel Webster Scholars Program, the only program of its type in the country.

As a Webster Scholar, I “counsel clients, appear before judges, and develop [my] skills and judgment in clinical setting.” Pierce Law Center Web Site, <http://www.piercelaw.edu/websterscholar> (last visited September 23, 2008.) Because I will have already practiced law (and made a difference in the lives of actual clients) by the time I matriculate, I will leave with the unwavering confidence that I have what it takes to succeed at my chosen profession. My experience will not have been limited to the classroom; I have already been offered a summer internship at the New Hampshire Attorney General’s Office and, as a graduation requirement, will participate in an externship. This combination of “book knowledge” and hands-on experience will make me “client-ready” (and an officer of the court) on graduation day.

Following a dream takes sacrifice, dedication, courage, and hard work. I have wanted to attend law school for more than 25 year, after putting my graduate school plans on hold for more than 20 years once I became a single mother during college. Since my daughter’s birth, my top priority has been raising her and providing her with a quality education. Soon after she received her undergraduate degree, I successfully applied to Pierce Law Center (Concord, NH.) One of the things that attracted me to the school was the Webster Scholar Program, essentially a one-of-a-kind, two-year bar exam involving rigorous training and a strict evaluation of my written and video portfolios. I earned decent grades (>3.0) my first semester, despite the general challenges of returning to the classroom and the specific challenge of taking final exams shortly after a death in my immediate family. During my second semester, I rallied back and earned grades of which I am satisfied (>3.6.) Getting accepted into the Scholars Program was the capstone to a tough, yet rewarding year.

In one of my first jobs, I was taught to “ask for the sale” by first understanding the buyer’s needs, then creating an offer that is so compelling that the salesperson can close the deal by merely asking “Fair enough?” As I understand it, your needs are to whittle a large set of highly-qualified and diverse scholarship candidates down to a select few meritorious individuals. I offer maturity, poise, conviction, integrity, intelligence, perseverance, dedication, and a proven track record of success in this field. If you agree that these attributes mesh well with the qualities of your ideal candidate, I encourage you to offer me a scholarship. “Fair enough?”

Big Brother is Really Watching by Susan Braen

Do you sometimes feel like “Truman”? Truman is a movie character who has had his whole life controlled. His real mother stepped aside for an actress to play his mother. His father was supposedly drowned in an artificial storm while he and Truman were sailing. Every once in a while, Truman glimpses something that suggests that this world is not what it seems. Or a perfect stranger will call him by his name. As it turns out, the whole world is watching him on television. The show is supported by commercials which are presented by other actors or actresses. His wife, for example, offers him cocoa and gives a spiel about the product to the hidden camera. Individuals who try to tell Truman what is happening are summarily grabbed and carted off by television staff personnel. It is all quite confusing to Truman.

The movie makes an attempt to show how little privacy we have now, I think. It shows that it may be hard to tell what is real and what is staged. I don't know that the film did a really good job with those ideas. I think that it would have been a much darker film if it had. What do we do in public? We do not think that the world is watching us. But I think that we tell more about ourselves than we should have to. It seems that making things public preserves some privacy. If we tell something, maybe they (the world) will not ask more. Or we tell unwittingly.

We don't just decline going out with friends. We explain that we are tired. Maybe the real reason is that we are broke. We get questionnaires in the mail or as “required” warranty cards which ask us to tell strangers how old we are, how many children we have and their ages, and what our income is. In order to subscribe to Juno, you are supposed to give the company information about yourself. If you use a credit card or a “shoppers club card” to buy your groceries, the store and who knows who else has your name, address, and what products you buy. Diapers? Fancy foods? Animal food? How much do you usually spend and how often? Even the debit cards provide a wealth of information. We surrender this information unwittingly.

Libraries will not tell other people who has a book checked out. But Monica Lewinski's reading habits are being monitored through credit card records from a bookstore. Why would a book store keep such records once the bill has been paid, even allowing for arguments with the credit card company by an occasional customer. Most of us do not return books because the plot failed during the warranty period. Maybe we figure that we really do not care who knows what we read. But maybe that is not the point. Maybe we just should preserve privacy for all citizens.

Medical records are available to a vast array of people. People who are concerned that they may carry the gene for certain inherited conditions dare not have the test done on their medical insurance or in their real name. Although an employer make not discriminate against a job candidate for a medical condition, apparently employers can require a physical exam with a physician of their choosing. You may be forced to answer quite personal questions and submit to having your body

examined by a stranger who does not have your well being as his or her goal. This person is not interested in your health. But you submit because you want the job. Or do you say that your own physician will provide any relevant information? Do you say that you have the right to the privacy of your own body? I personally do not think that it is ethical for a physician to examine and question a person when he or she has no responsibility, medically speaking, for that person.

I find myself using cash. I do not fill out warranties. I do not answer questionnaires. I do not make remarks that may be construed as anti government in print or email. I think about what I say on the telephone. J. Edgar Hoover lives on. I just blink to my friends to answer questions.

Reprinted from Mensana, newsletter of Western New York Mensa, July 1998, Teri Prentiss, Editor

Impression and Reflection by R. E. Rech

Ambitions,
Dreams,
Hopes,
Passions –
Fuel sustaining every Soul.

Desires,
Needs,
Structure,
Wants –
Physical substance All require.

Compassion,
Caring,
Empathy,
Love –
Emotions easing Life's burdens.

Indifference,
Greed,
Fear,
Hatred –
The downfall of Mankind.



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



Calendar of Events

September 2009

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		01 Deadline for Oct. events	02	03	04 Temperance League	05
06	07	08	09	10	11 Brady Bunch	12 Games Night
13 Second Sunday Brunch	14	15	16	17	18 Winnepesupper Japanese Dinner	19 Nashua Tempera- nce
20	21	22 Pre-FSM Dinner FSM/ ExComm	23	24	25 M & I	26 VT Lunch & Brewery Tour
27	28	29	30			