



**New Hampshire Mensa's  
Granite Gathering**

**15-17 February 2013**

**Best Western Plus Wynwood  
Hotel & Suites**

**Portsmouth, New Hampshire**

# RG Tips and Tidbits

**BADGES:** Anyone NOT wearing a badge will NOT be allowed entry into Hospitality. Many of you will think this stinks. However, this is the only way we can ensure that only paying RG attendees will be able to avail themselves of the victuals and libations that your registration dollars paid for. We thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

**BEHAVIOR:** Please respect the property of the RG and the hotel. Illegal, destructive, or abusive behavior will not be tolerated and will be considered cause for possible eviction from the RG without refund.

**HOSPITALITY:** Please do not carry open containers outside the RG area so that we may abide by state regulations that govern the hotel.

**HUGGING:** The Mensa hug dot code is as follows:



GREEN means “Yes, please hug me!”  
YELLOW means “Please ask me first.”  
RED means “Don’t hug me.”  
BLUE means “Seeking dates.”

Please treat all children as if they have red dots, as they often decorate their badges with multiple colors.

**MENSA TIME:** Our RG runs on Mensa Time; please be patient with our hard-working volunteers if an event begins a few minutes late.

**MEET-AND-GREETS:** Speaking of getting things underway a few minutes late, if you show up at a Meet-and-Greet and no one else is there yet, please don’t walk away! All too often, the first person arrives, sees an empty room, and leaves. A minute later, the next person arrives, sees an empty room, and leaves. Etc., etc., etc. So just stick it out for a few minutes until everyone shows up!

**PARENTS AND CHILDREN:** Please, no unaccompanied children under 12 in public areas after 10:00 p.m. Please make certain your children are supervised in the Kids’ Room as daycare service is not provided by the RG or by the hotel. Individual parents are requested to supervise activities and crafts, and to staff the room.

**PHOTOGRAPHS:** We’d love to see your RG photos! Feel free to email them to Bill Alleman at [webmaster@nh.us.mensa.org](mailto:webmaster@nh.us.mensa.org) for posting on

the New Hampshire Mensa website, and/or to Cathy Segedy at editor@nh.us.mensa.org for inclusion in a future issue of *Momentum*.

**Pool:** When using the hotel pool, please observe the posted rules.

**SCHEDULE AUTHENTICITY:** All elements of our schedule are current as of 2/5/13, but are subject to change without notice. We hope nothing changes, but if it does, may it only be for the better. We will endeavor to post any and all changes in a prominent location in Hospitality.

**SCRAPBOOKING/CRAFT ROOM:** Sue Follansbee is running our Craft Room on the second floor (Room 297), where she will have several simple scrapbook make-and-takes available, as well as money-saving tips and tricks for fellow crafters and scrapbookers. She invites you to bring your own craft to work on, to share, or even to teach! Stop by to chat, craft, watch some of Sue's craft videos, and have some fun. Please see the program listings for room opening and closing times, and times reserved for specific classes.

**SMOKING:** No smoking is allowed in the hotel.

## Room Key

**On the Ground Floor: Appledore, Badger, and Cutter**

Games are in Appledore

Many Speakers are in Badger

The Music Room is in Cutter

Hospitality is outside Appledore and Badger

Fox Imaging - The Mensa Store  
is outside Cutter on Saturday



**On the Second Floor: Rooms 292-297**

More Speakers are in Room 292

The Meet-and-Greet (M&G) Room is Room 293

The Movie Room is Room 294

Tournaments are in Room 295

The Kids' Room is Room 296

The Craft Room is Room 297

# RG Schedule

## Friday

**4:00 Hospitality, Games Room, and Kids' Room 296 open.**



**4:00-6:00 Coloring and Crafts (Kids' Room 296)** During this time, **Liz Modesitt** will have the Kids' Room open for supervised free play. Materials for coloring and simple arts 'n' crafts activities will be provided, as well as games (Memory, Chutes 'n' Ladders, etc.). This session will run multiple times during the RG.

**6:00 Craft Room 297 opens.**

**6:00-7:00 UNSUPERVISED Food Break/Free Play (Kids' Room 296)** During this time, the Kids' Room will be open for unsupervised free play.

**6:00 Dinner (Hospitality)** Taco Bar, with vegetarian options. Let's celebrate that the Mayans were wrong with some Mexican-themed food!

**7:00 50/50 Raffle Ticket Sale (Hospitality)** Come get tickets for the raffle, and help support our local scholarships. Tickets are \$1 each or six for \$5. The winning ticket will be drawn Sunday morning during Awards and Announcements.

**7:00-8:00 Name Badge Making (Kids' Room 296)** Come make a cooler version of your name badge than the pre-printed one given to you at Registration. **Sue Follansbee** will provide materials for your use, including pre-cut paper that will fit the badge holder, markers, crayons, stickers, and other decorative items.

**7:00-8:00 Newbie Primer (Cutter)** Is this your first Mensa Regional Gathering? Come to the Newbie Primer and **Rob Salkin** will tell you everything you need to know and answer all your questions. And if he doesn't know the real answer, he'll make something up that sounds incredibly convincing.

**7:00-8:00 Using Space Age Methods to Study the Ancient Maya (Badger)** Since 2007, **Barrett Rock** has used Landsat Thematic Mapper satellite data to map and monitor the location of Cenotes (surface features of extensive underground water-filled cave systems) in the State of Quintana Roo on Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula. Cenotes were used by the Ancient Maya as their only source of

fresh water and thus, are often associated with undiscovered Mayan ruins. Using Landsat sensors, variations in forest conditions may be detected from Earth orbit. Rock will discuss his research efforts in identifying Cenotes from space, along with providing interesting details about the Ancient Maya, including their Long Count Calendar that some interpreted as predicting a Doomsday scenario for December 21, 2012.

**7:00 Film: *The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel* (Movie Room 294)** Seven older Britons retire to India's Marigold Hotel. Maybe the end of the Marigold? Starring Judi Dench, Maggie Smith, and Dev Patel. (2012, 2:04 running time, rated PG-13.)

**7:30-8:30 Young M/TeenSIG Meet-and-Greet (M&G Room 293)**

**8:00-9:00 Mayan Mask Making (Kids' Room 296)** Make your own Mayan mask using craft materials, a blank mask base, and your imagination.

**8:00-9:00 Blowin' (MIDI) In the Wind (Cutter)** Don't think of it as a divorce; think of it as an extended marriage: MIDI-based synthesizers and keyboards aren't synonymous anymore, and anyone can play. What does it take to control a synthesizer with a wind instrument? **Steven Winikoff** shows that one way to answer that question is to build a tiny software synthesizer on the spot, using free software available for any computer running Windows, MacOS or Linux – and then demonstrate the result by playing it.



**8:00 Ice Cream Sundaes (Music Room)**

**8:30-10:00 Chocolate Casting (Badger)** Based on Norwegian Seed casting – reading the future in chocolate chips and other candies. **Tchipakkan** leads this how-to workshop, but while we nibble and divine, we discuss as well as demonstrate how one can create a functional divinatory form using whatever you have available.

**8:30 Cryptogram Tournament (Tournament Room 295)** Are you a crackerjack at cracking codes? Join host **Claire Natola** to compete against other cipher-solvers for a chance to win a prize!

**9:00-10:00 Musical Performance: The EWI and the Invisible Bands (Cutter)** The clarinet has been replaced by a wind controller. That part is real – and live. The rest of the ensemble is prerecorded, out of sight but not out of mind; think of it as instrumental karaoke. **Steven Winikoff's** mix will be eclectic, ranging from Broadway, movie and TV themes to jazz, blues, and klezmer, with a touch of the Tijuana Brass along the way.

**9:00-10:30 Gen X/Y Meet-and-Greet (M&G Room 293)**

**9:00 Room 292 closes for the night.**

**9:00 Kids' Room 296 closes for the night.** All persons of any age **MUST** vacate the room at this time, with the only exception being authorized RG volunteers/staff.



**9:00 Craft Room 297 closes for the night.**

**9:00-11:00 Pete the Bartender (Hospitality)** Pete mixes us his famous Mudslides and other cocktails!

**9:15 Film: *Zombieland* (Movie Room 294)** After the Zombie Apocalypse, a ragtag group survives. Even Twinkies are endangered. A dark comedy with 30 rules for survival. Starring Jesse Eisenberg, Emma Stone, Woody Harrelson, and Abigail Breslin. (2009, 1:28 running time, rated R for zombie blood <and guts> everywhere, and occasional profanity.)

**10:00-12:00 Open Music Jam (Cutter)** Bring your instruments to the Music Room in Cutter for an open music jam with fellow Mensans.

**11:00 Meet-and-Greet Room 293 closes for the night.**

**11:00 Shrimp and Champagne (Hospitality)** We must keep the celebration going!

**11:00 Film: *Shaun of the Dead* (Movie Room 294)** A group of Britons initially fail to notice most of the world has turned zombie. Another dark comedy about zombieapocalypse, and getting your ex back. (2004, 1:39 running time, rated R for even more zombie blood, some harsh language, some marijuana use.)

**12:30 Movie Room 294 closes for the night.** Go hide somewhere else.

## **Saturday**

**6:00 Early Breakfast (Hospitality)** Breakfast starts with fruit and danishes.

**7:30-9:00 Kids' Room 296 Opens** for UNSUPERVISED Free Play.

**8:00 Waffles (Hospitality)** Do we need to say more?

**9:00 Craft Room 297 opens for the day.**

**9:00-10:00 Mayan-Themed Puzzle Sheets (Kids' Room 296)** Try your hand at a series of word searches and other puzzles using words associated with Mayan culture and geography.

**9:00 Film: *Brave* (Movie Room 294)** A young Scot princess struggles to make her own way. Nominated for Best Animated Feature. (2012, 1:33 running time, rated PG)

**9:00-10:00 Veganism (Room 292)** For anyone who has ever been interested in the subject, join **Ragnar Kempf** to learn more than you ever cared to know about the lifestyle. May contain images that are not suitable for younger viewers. Keeping an open mind is appreciated.

**9:00-10:00 The Devil's Trumpet (Badger)** The genus *Datura* and *Brugmansia* are notorious. The criminal, ritualistic and medical use of these diabolical witch's plants are legendary. The use of them for zombification and fortune-telling only scratches the surface of their powers. Of all the dangerous narcotic plants in the world, these are generally not regulated! Interesting? **Kevin Tremblay** invites you to come hear more.



**9:00-10:15 Body, Heal Thyself – Can it, Does It, and How Can I Do It? (Cutter)** Virtually everyone has experienced aches, pains and other conditions causing distress in their bodies and lives. In this talk, **Ron Oplinus** tells us about a system that identifies some of the major causes of body malfunction, how and why this happens, and how to remove the causes so the body can heal. If time permits, a live demonstration will be done on a willing victim.

**9:15 Logic Puzzle Tournament (Tournament Room 295)** Do logic puzzles tickle your fancy in addition to your little grey cells? Join host **Claire Natola** to compete against other logic puzzlers for a chance to win a prize!

**10:00 Breakfast Ends**

**10:00 50/50 Raffle Ticket Sale (Hospitality)**

**10:00-11:00 Create a Mini-Scrapbook Album (Craft Room 297)** Learn from **Sue Follansbee** how to craft a mini scrapbook album using one 12" x 12" sheet of paper. All supplies are provided.

**10:00-11:30 Mensa Admissions Testing (meet at Registration)**

**10:00-11:30 Creative Solutions (Kids' Room 296)** The world is full of problems that are not like the problems you are taught to solve in school. While school gives you good tools for approaching some of life's problems, sometimes you have to look at things from a different direction, and try ideas

that are not the steps laid out in a book. Come spend some time working with **Cathy Segedy** on some interesting challenges and problems where there is no “right” answer. There are many ways to approach these fun challenges. Which will you choose?

**10:30-11:30 Preparing Rice and Veggies for Sushi (Room 292)** Sushi is a labor-intensive process, with a simple-looking end result that's tasty and visually attractive. In this class, **David Melville** covers the most important part of sushi – the rice: how to cook it, make the vinegar, and select and prepare vegetables.

**10:30-12:00 Solar Flares: Violent Eruptions on the Sun That Can Bathe Earth with Harmful Radiation and Affect Life on Our Planet (Cutter)** Solar flares are eruptions in the Sun's atmosphere, the energy for which comes from the intense solar magnetic field. These eruptions occur on other



stars, too. The fact that these stellar flares emit X-rays that can be measured from Earth is a testament to how powerful they are or can be (i.e., thousands of times more potent than what we have experienced from the Sun). Such a “superflare” would effect our global environment in a variety of serious ways. Fortunately, the Sun appears to be in a stage of life where such big events no longer occur, but there is no direct evidence

indicating so. **James Ryan** will examine the dynamics of these events, the research on their frequency and magnitude, and predicted effects on Earth and society.

**10:30-12:00 Introduction to Runes and RúnValdr (Badger)** Runes are a symbol set, a system of writing that is now best known as a tool for divination, but has been more from basic communication to magickal practice. In this workshop, **Tchipakkan** will give an overview of what the runes have been and can be, and direction on how to proceed in your studies. RúnValdr is a system of energy healing using Runes and another set of symbols given to Rodney Cox by Odin and Freya. It has similarities to Reiki, but can be used for healing from ADD to migraines, making magickal objects, astral travel, channeling energies, and more. This workshop introduces the symbols and what each of them is used for; attunements will be conducted separately for participants after the presentation.

**10:45 Film: ParaNorman (Movie Room 294)** A young boy has the gift to talk to the dead, useful during a zombie uprising. Nominated for Best Animated Feature. (2012, 1:32 running time, rated PG)

**11:00-12:00 Meet the Candidates (M&G Room 293)** American Mensa Committee elections are happening this year. Any candidates in attendance at the RG this weekend are welcome to use this time and space to press the flesh (get your mind out of the gutter) and tell us their visions for American Mensa.

**11:30 Scavenger Hunt (Begins in Kids' Room 296)** You will be given a list of items to collect and a bag to collect them in. **Liz Modesitt** will record



the time that you pick up your sheet and also the time you return your sheet to her. The winner will be determined by a combination of how many items are collected and total time, with bonus points awarded at her whim. All sheets must be returned to Liz no later than 4:30 p.m. to be considered. The winner will be announced and presented with a special prize on Sunday. Strictly limited to participants 16 and younger.

### **11:45-1:00 UNSUPERVISED Food Break/Free Play (Kids' Room 296)**

**12:00 First Lunch (Hospitality)** Homemade bread, deli meats and cheeses, salad, and all the fixings needed.

**12:30 Second Lunch (Hospitality)** Same as the first, and just as yummy!

**12:30 Film: *Wall-E* (Movie Room 294)** A little garbage-picking robot may have the clue to the end of a garbage apocalypse. Oscars for Best Animated Feature, Best Score, Best Song. (2008, 1:38 running time, rated G)

**1:00 Cribbage Tournament (Room 295)** Show off your cribbage prowess in this tournament, hosted by **Dennis Higbee**, where you could win a prize!

**1:00-2:00 Pony Bead Creature Keychain Making (Kids' Room 296)** Come make a cool keychain out of gimp and pony beads. Choices include the following: bat, lizard, snake, spider, and some other surprises. Colored instruction sheets are provided for your temporary use, and **Liz Modesitt** can/will assist as needed. All ages are welcome, but younger children will be happier when accompanied by an adult (for constant hands-on help).

**1:00-2:00 Create a Purse Mini-Album (Craft Room 297)** Learn how to craft a purse mini-album with **Sue Follansbee**. All supplies are provided.

**1:00-2:00 Assembling Sushi (Room 292)** Building on the lessons from the 10:30 a.m. Preparing Rice and Veggies for Sushi class, **David Melville** will teach you more about making several common forms of sushi – maki rolls, rice balls, battleship rolls, and hand rolls. This class has hands-on parts for anybody who is interested. There will be no raw fish involved in this class.



**1:00-2:00 Welcome to Burning Man (Cutter)** Burning Man is the largest public art festival in the world (about sixty thousand people this year). It's also the most extreme camping experience most of us will ever encounter, and the most mind-blowing party most of us could ever imagine. What does it take to get there? What happens? And, why do we keep doing this to ourselves? **Wil Howitt** will offer some answers and insights, and some doors will be opened.

**1:00-2:00 Computer Security (Badger)** At the 2005 and 2008 Granite Gatherings, **Curry Bartlett** gave extremely popular presentations on computer security. We're rather overdue for a follow-up! An amazing number of computers are infected with viruses, spyware and trojans every year. Learn about why this is happening and what it means to you.

**2:00 Rock, Basket, Spear Tournament (Kids' Room 296)** Rock, Paper, Scissors with minor changes. Rock stays the same, paper changes to basket (represented by a flat hand), and scissors change to spear (represented by the pointer finger and middle finger outstretched side-by-side. Rock smashes spear, basket covers rock, spear stabs and tears basket. Prize to be presented to the winner on Sunday. Open also to those who are still kids at heart, even if their chronological age says otherwise!

**2:00-3:00 Strategic Success with SMARTER Goals and Performance Indicators – or, How to Do Your Job Better Regardless of What It Is (Cutter)** The idea is to set specific strategic goals and to track them with objective data to be sure they're being met, or where additional attention is needed. **Rob Salkin** shows how SMARTER goals can be applied not only to businesses, but also to local and national Mensa groups.

**2:15 Film: *Mirror Mirror* (Movie Room 294)** A different comedy take on the legend of Snow White. Starring Lily Collins, Julia Roberts, Armie Hammer. (2012, 1:46 running time, Rated PG)



**2:30-3:30 DIY Zombie Film (Badger)** Ever consider creating your own web series or short films? Over a couple of beers on a hot summer day in 2011, two software engineers thought they could make their own zombie movies. Egged on by friends and family, with absolutely no background in filmmaking, they set out with a digital camera and a vague sense of direction. Since then, they have been in small film festivals and won the 2012 Phoenixville Blobfest Short Film Competition. Their latest, and most ambitious, project is a short film currently in post-production. Come hear about the journey from one of the aforementioned software engineers, **John Iwasz**.

**3:00 50/50 Raffle Ticket Sale (Hospitality)**

**3:00-4:00 Writing the Maya Calendar (Kids' Room 296)** The Maya calendar ended a major cycle on December 21, 2012. But what kind of cycle was it? The Maya described their calendar through a glyphic writing system. **Edgar Martin del Campo** will show how this writing system worked and how the Maya used their calendars. Hands-on activities will explain how to read the ancient glyphs.

**3:00 Afternoon Snack (Hospitality)** Why not celebrate the fact that the world didn't end in December with milk and cookies and other tasty snacks?

**3:00-6:00 The Emperor Has No Clothes...And It Ain't Pretty - Pull Out Those Bootstraps and Big Girl Panties; It's Time to Face Global Challenges with Clarity and Resolution! (Cutter)** As denizens of the Anthropocene, we find ourselves lost in a maddening sea of ever-increasing catastrophes: environmental, social, political, and financial. The most common response is denial to some extent. Called the "Bias of Optimism," the psychological mechanism that allows our species to continue functioning, individually and collectively, in the face of danger or unimaginable horror may very well be our undoing. If we are to survive, let alone thrive, we must pull our collective heads out of the proverbial sand before we can hope to effect any real or sustained change. **Pippa Curran** begins this presentation with a screening of *What a Way to Go: Life at the End of Empire*, a poetic documentary that examines a number of crises facing humanity. Following a short break, she will review a variety of complicated issues with no clear path to resolution (including climate change, environmental destruction, overpopulation, Big AG, social injustice, and peak oil), examining both individual and social engagement as mechanisms of change and empowerment. Can any certainty come from such uncertainty, and can people work together to create a happier, healthier global environment for generations to come?

**3:00-4:00 Create Cards and Cardbox (Craft Room 297)** Learn from **Sue Follansbee** how to craft a variety of quick cards and a box to hold them. All supplies are provided.

**3:00-4:00 2014 AG Update (M&G Room 293)** Join **Deb Stone** and **Claire Natola** (Co-Chairs of the 2014 American Mensa Annual Gathering in Boston) for an update about plans for the AG. We're only 17 months away! (Yikes!)



**4:00-5:00 Hell's Ms Meet-and-Greet (M&G Room 293)**

**4:00 Poker Tournament (Games Room)** Join **Deb Stone** for our very own Mensa Series of Poker! OK...it may not be quite as glamorous as you see on TV, but it's just as much fun.

**4:00 Film: Easy A (Movie Room 294)** A modern-day comedy homage to *The Scarlet Letter*. After a white lie ("let's not and say we did") ruins her reputation, a clean-cut girl uses the rumor mill for her advantage. Starring Emma Stone and Amanda Bynes. (2010, 1:32 running time, Rated PG-13)

**4:00-5:00 The Americas Before They Were the Americas: Pre-Columbus and Amerigo Vespucci (Badger)** This talk will give a rapid sketch of the wide variety of cultures and civilizations throughout the Western

Hemisphere prior to 1492. **Frank McCann** explains how the many hundreds of languages, intensive food production, far-reaching trade networks, huge urban centers, and imaginative solutions to housing displayed a startling diversity that was consciously diminished by European invaders and left us with an impoverished sense of the deep and extensive history of the Americas. The intention is to provide a guide to reclaiming that lost past.

**4:30 Scavenger Hunt Ends (Kids' Room 296)** All Scavenger Hunt materials are due to **Liz Modesitt** by this time in order to qualify for the winner's prize.

**4:30 Making Beaded Jewelry and Name Stamps (Kids' Room 296)** Use colored beads to make a pretty necklace or a bracelet, for yourself or a friend. **Sue Follansbee** can also teach you to make a stamp of your first or last name, for scrapbooking or other projects.

**5:15-6:15 Ghosts and Science (Badger)** In the last 10 years, ghost hunting has gone from freak show to TV show. And, from Skeptic to Believer, everyone seems to have some pretty far-out explanations. What, if any of it, is true? Join **AJ Kitt** for your chance to find answers.

**5:45 Film: *Snow White and the Huntsman* (Movie Room 294)** A different take on Snow White, with magic and swordplay. Starring Kristen Stewart, Chris Hemsworth, and Charlize Theron. (2012, 2:07 running time, rated PG-13)

**6:30-8:00 UNSUPERVISED Food Break/Free Play (Kids' Room 296)**



**6:30 Greek Dinner Catered by Cafe Nostimo (Hospitality)** For those wondering how Greek food fits our “disastrous” RG theme, haven’t you noticed the current state of the Greek economy?

**7:00 Room 292 closes for the night.**



**7:30 Sock Hop! (Cutter and Badger)** Dance the night away to the rockabilly sounds of King Chrome! King Chrome is *the* roots-rock trio of New Hampshire's Lakes Region, providing an exciting mix of music that harkens back to rock 'n' roll's earliest beginnings. You'll hear tunes from roots rock's heyday of Buddy Holly, Jerry Lee Lewis, Fats Domino, Elvis Presley, Bo Diddley, and Johnny Cash through to the music of more modern torch-bearers like Stray Cats, ZZ Top, and Eric Clapton. Bassist **Shawn Chase**, drummer **Rob Court**, and guitarist **Dennis Allard** will keep you on the dance floor!

**8:00 50/50 Raffle Ticket Sale (Hospitality)**

**8:00-9:00 Coloring and Crafts (Kids' Room 296)**

**8:15 Film: *The Hunger Games* (Movie Room 294)** Based on the Suzanne Collins novel(s), this concerns a dystopian future, where an aristocratic Panem Capitol forces the common people of the 12 Districts to send pairs of young fighters for a contest to the death. Starring Jennifer Lawrence, Josh Hutcherson, and Elizabeth Banks. (2012, 2:22 running time, rated PG-13)

**9:00 Kids' Room 296 closes for the night.** All persons of any age **MUST** vacate the room at this time, with the only exception being authorized RG volunteers/staff.

**9:00 Craft Room 297 closes for the night.**

**9:00-11:00 Pete the Bartender (Hospitality)** Pete returns for another night of liquid heaven!

**10:00 Meet-and-Greet Room 293 closes for the night.**

**10:45 Film: *Magic Mike (Movie Room 294)*** A stripper hires a young man from his day job as a protege. Lotsa partying. Starring Channing Tatum, Matt McConaughey, Alex Pettyfer, Joe Manganiello. (2012, 1:50 running time, rated R for...um, too much plot? Lots of nudity - both genders, no "full frontal - profanity, drug use.)

**11:00 The Mayan Chocolate Invasion (Hospitality)** The Mayans supposedly predicted doom and gloom, but we can celebrate that they and their southern neighbors introduced chocolate to the European world.

**12:35 Movie Room 294 closes for the night.** Party elsewhere.

## Sunday

**7:00 Early Breakfast (Hospitality)** Start the day with fruit and danishes!

**7:30 Kids' Room 296 Opens.** There is no programming scheduled for the Kids' Room on Sunday, but it will be open until after the awards ceremony for UNSUPERVISED Free Play.

**9:00 NH Mensa's Traditional RG Brunch (Hospitality)** Eat all you can and more; we don't want to pack it and/or take it home!



**9:00 Film: *How to Train Your Dragon (Movie Room 294)*** A hapless young Viking captures, then befriends, a dreaded Night Fury Dragon, discovering there is far more to the creatures than the Vikings of Berk Island think. (2010, 1:38 running time, rated PG)

**10:30 Closing Ceremony and Awards (Cutter and Badger)**

**10:45 Movie Room 294 closes.** See you in 2014!

**11:00 Kids' Room Clean-Up** All assistance gratefully accepted! No supervision of kids can be provided during this time, but anyone who does not get underfoot is welcome to hang out here while cleaning happens.

**11:00 Hospitality Closes.** We'll be back again next year, though! All assistance cleaning up is gratefully accepted!

**Thank you for being a part of yet another great Granite Gathering! We'll see you next year!**

## Many Thanks to Our Presenters!

**Curry Bartlett** has spent the last two decades working in, managing the security for, and developing techniques to protect networked computer environments. Curry has presented at a NASA computer security conference and at the National Information Systems Security Conference, and has assisted criminal investigators. He was part of the DEC/Compaq/HP Tru64 UNIX Operating System Security Group.

**Pippa Curran** is a writer, performance artist, and activist who has been striving for a better world her entire life. As a child, she was involved in animal rights and rescue, environmental, and social justice efforts. Growing up with active awareness and hard Left leanings has led her to aggressively campaign for environmental and climate action, preservation of the natural world, animal rights and rescue relief, food justice and sustainable agriculture, social justice and equality, LGBTQ rights and equality, and sexual assault and domestic violence (SA/DV) support. Her advocacy for SA/DV education and services led to the creation of a multi-million dollar center that has won numerous awards and national accolades since its inception. Using art as an extension of advocacy, and willingly stepping into the line of fire, she continues to provide a progressive voice and a force of resistance to the status quo.

Kids Co-Chair **Sue Follansbee** has been attending RG's with her

husband Jack for several years, offering scrapbooking classes and helping out in the Kids Room. This year she is not only co-chairing the Kids Room with Liz Modesitt, but she is also having a Scrapbooking/General craft room.

**Dennis Higbee** has been a member of Boston Mensa for 11 years. He likes a number of different card games and is paying it forward by running the cribbage tournament, since Mensa is where he learned to play in the first place.

**Wil Howitt** is a doctor of computer science and electrical engineering, specializing in physical acoustics and psychoacoustics. He has worked at MIT and BU, developing human auditory system models and speech recognition systems. He also enjoys drumming, dancing, and playing didjeridu and other rhythmic instruments. He teaches Taoist martial arts, rides a black BMW motorcycle, fences with a German longsword, and looks around a lot.

**John Iwasz** is a software engineer by day, film editor by night. John is one half of the For Zombies Productions, Inc. executive team. He has also written articles for a comic book website and hosted a podcast. Hobbies include home brewing, bird watching and making silly movies.

**Edgar Martin del Campo** is a lecturer in anthropology at the University of New Hampshire. He received a doctorate in anthropology

## Many Thanks to Our Presenters!

from the University at Albany (2006) and a master's in religion from Claremont School of Theology (2000). He regularly travels to Mexico for photography and writing, and joined Mensa in 2011.

**Ragnar Kempf** is currently studying linguistics and mathematics at the University of New Hampshire and is the local Young Mensan coordinator. He has been living a vegan lifestyle for several years, and has recently begun to lecture on the topic. In his spare time, he experiments with languages, among other pursuits.

**King Chrome** consists of bassist **Shawn Chase**, drummer **Rob Court**, and guitarist **Dennis Allard**. King Chrome was formed in 2011 by Shawn and Rob, following several years performing in another rockabilly band with Kyle Nickerson (Music Chair of last year's Gathering). King Chrome gives a modern feel to the distinct, simple, and unrefined sound of early rock music, paying homage to the spirit of rockabilly and to the groundbreaking artists of that time.

Fellow Mensan **AJ Kitt** - with a BA in Journalism and hundreds of articles in newspapers and magazines (not to mention the book, *Ghosts, Science, and the Number 42*) by him or about him - has been applying critical thinking, research, and methods to ghosts and mediumship for the last five years. He is currently pursuing advanced degrees in Psychology (specifically with regard to Consciousness and

Perception) in the hope of eventually lending another qualified voice to the field of Parapsychology.

**David Melville** is a self-taught sushi chef with about 20 years of experience. For 15 years, he has been preparing sushi for friends, for parties, and for dozens at New Hampshire Mensa Games Nights.

**Frank McCann** is Professor of History Emeritus at the University of New Hampshire, where he has been on the faculty since 1971. He received his education at Niagara University (A.B., 1960), Kent State University (M.A., 1962), Pontificia Universidade Católica do Rio de Janeiro (Fulbright, 1965), and Indiana University (Ph.D., 1967). Prior to joining the New Hampshire faculty he taught at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls, and at the United States Military Academy at West Point (while on active military duty). His research has resulted in four published books, with three more in various stages of completion, plus some sixty scholarly articles, critical essays, and commentaries. In 1987, the President of Brazil conferred on him the rank of *Comendador* in the Order of Rio Branco, in recognition of his scholarship and of his efforts in promoting better relations between Brazil and the United States. In 1994, the Minister of the Brazilian Army conferred on him the *Medalha do Pacificador* in recognition of his research on the army's history. He is a Contributing Editor (Brazil) to the *Handbook on*



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*Latin American Studies*, Hispanic Division, Library of Congress. He has had a life-long interest in Native American cultures and histories and for thirty years taught courses at UNH on the Native Peoples of the Americas.

Kids Co-Chair **Liz Modesitt** has been an active member of New Hampshire Mensa for over seven years, serving previously as Recording Secretary and Calendar Editor, and presently as a Member-At-Large. She enjoys spending time with her thirteen-year-old son, doing arts'n'crafts, baking, watching NFL football, and being a social butterfly. Liz works part-time in the Concord, NH area with developmentally challenged adults.

**Claire Natola** is Editor of Vermont Mensa's newsletter *VERisM*. However, since she has moved to Massachusetts and would like to become a member of Connecticut & Western Massachusetts Mensa, she's looking for a replacement to produce *VERisM*. (Anyone? Bueller?) With Deb Stone, she is Co-Chairing the 2014 Annual Gathering in Boston. This month, she celebrates one decade as a Mensa member. She currently works as an Office Manager for an architecture firm, but that could change at any time.

**Ron Oplinus** is a retired Electrical Engineer whose current passion is energy healing. He is Certified in Matrix Energetics, Emotion Code, Organ Regeneration Through Consciousness, and other healing

modalities. Ron has extensive experience in facilitating the transformation of the body/mind/spirit of clients from pain and dysfunction to one of wellness.

**Barrett Rock** acquired his Ph.D. from the University of Maryland, and is an Emeritus Professor of Natural Resources and the Institute for the Study of Earth, Oceans, and Space (EOS) at the University of New Hampshire. His research interests include climate change and the use of satellite remote sensing for the study of vegetation. Some of his recent studies have focused on satellite data to map ancient Maya habitation sites on the Yucatan Peninsula of Mexico.

**James Ryan** (Ph.D., University of California, Riverside) is a professor of physics and earth, oceans, and space at the University of New Hampshire. His research interests include terrestrial, solar, and astrophysical cosmic and gamma rays. He also spends considerable time these days on Homeland Security research.

**Rob Salkin** is a GenX/Y guy from Mensa of Northeastern New York (MoNNY) who teaches college students how to do fun things with their computers during the week and attends as many Mensa events as possible in his spare time. He's an M-Available SIG coordinator (mavailable.org), the GenY coordinator and assistant RVC for Region 1, LocSec of MoNNY (nymensa.org), and was recently

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AML's Membership Officer. For more information, contact Rob at [rob.salkin@gmail.com](mailto:rob.salkin@gmail.com).

**Cathy Segedy** is a contract software engineer who also does website work for a living, which allows her to express both her logical and “artsy” sides. She has been an appraiser for Destination Imagination (a creative problem-solving program) for a number of years. She spends some of her spare time enjoying gardening, herbalism, contra dancing, gaming, and oh, yes, she is also the current editor for *Momentum*.

**Deb Stone** is a 25+ year member of Mensa. In her non-Mensa life she is a Fellow in the Casualty Actuarial Society, a Member of the American Academy of Actuaries and an insurance regulator. So she revels in the fact that she has a Mensa family that encourages her to just have fun the rest of the time. Being responsible can be highly overrated! She lives in Bow, NH with Sammi, the Wonder Dog and her home is the site of many an M event. Stop by registration or the poker game to find her. All hugs welcome.

**Tchipakkan** is an artist, writer, healer, and eclectic polytheist. Tchipakkan writes, paints, and teaches. She is the co-founder of Changing Times-Changing Worlds, an interfaith esoteric conference, and hosts a metaphysical talk show: The New Normal. She studies both the modern neo-pagan movement and historical paganism, teaches various healing systems from

herbalism to RúnValdr and many forms of divination. Tchipakkan paints book covers and portraits, sculpts votives and altar images, and has written articles and books including *Divine Cookies* and *Heathen Cookies*.

**Kevin P. Tremblay** is the At Large member of the Maine ExComm and Editor of their newsletter, *MaineScene*. In addition, he is the Coordinator of the Many Conspiracies SIG and a serious conspiracy hobbyist. His first published book is *Mommy, Please Come Home*, a personal memoir. A second book has been promised, *I Know What You Remember*, a fiction about murder, suicide and real estate. He is the Designated Broker of Maine Properties Realty located in Dexter, Maine. Kevin collects books and plants and does not know how deep the rabbit hole goes. He has been working on a manuscript on *Datura* for three decades and ensures the discerning thinker something to ponder in his presentation on The Devil's Trumpet.

**Steven Winikoff** has been a member of Mensa in Montreal since 1981. When he isn't torturing helpless computers into submission for the benefit of Concordia University, he can usually be found making music. His clarinet has occasionally been heard in Music Hospitality here at New Hampshire Mensa's Granite Gathering, and more recently he's picked up a new toy: an Akai EWI 4000S electronic wind MIDI controller.

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Wine Steward .....	Rick Gerdus
Icemeister .....	Jim Barnes
Fundraising .....	Mark Becker
A/V Troubleshooter .....	Jack Follansbee

Thank you to everyone who helps  
out throughout the weekend!

Any omissions are purely the unintentional fault of  
the Editor and not due to a lack of appreciation!