

*Rock On, Old Man!*



*Granite Gathering 2004*

## **BADGES**

Please WEAR your badge. It's the only way we can distinguish one another from other hotel guests.

## **HOSPITALITY**

Please keep all food and drinks in the Hospitality and Games rooms. Although we have use of the 12<sup>th</sup> Floor, we still need to abide by state regulations that govern the hotel.

## **SMOKING**

Smoking is allowed only in the Smoking Hospitality room and the D-SIG Room off Smoking Hospitality.

## **POOL**

If you choose to use the pool during the RG, please observe the posted rules.

## **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.

## **HUGGING**

The Mensa hugging dot code:

GREEN = Yes, please hug me!

YELLOW = Please ask me first.

RED = Don't hug me.

Please treat children as if they have red dots – they often decorate their badges.

## **PARENTS & CHILDREN**

Please, no unaccompanied children in public areas after 11PM. Please make certain your children are supervised in the Gifted Children's Room as daycare service is not provided by the RG or by the hotel. Individual parents will be responsible for supervising activities, crafts, etc. and for staffing the room. RG staff provides craft materials only.

## **LATE CHECK OUT**

A late checkout time of 2:00PM is available. Tell the Front Desk by Saturday morning that you are with our group and want late checkout.

# FRIDAY

## 12:30 – Volunteer Staff Meeting

Quick coordinating meeting for RG committee members and all volunteers on site ahead of time.

## 1:00 PM – Games

Registration begins.

## 4:00 PM – Hospitality, Games, Gifted Children

The Granite Gathering 2004 starts to rock!

## 6:00 PM – Hospitality

Dinner! Enjoy our New Hampshire brand of northern hospitality through an array of hearty soups and stews.

## 6:15 PM – Frost

Mensa Testing introduction, followed by the test from 6:30 – 8:30 PM

## 6:30 PM – Room #1215, Adjoining Hospitality RG Primer

Is this your first time at a Regional Gathering? Your first Mensa event? Let veterans Bromley Baril and Wendy Birchmere tell you what to expect and answer all your questions, and meet fellow newcomers like yourself!

## 7:00 PM – Gifted Children

Paper rolls and crayons arrive.

## 7:00 PM – Movies X2: X-Men Reunited (2003, PG 13, 2:14)

The superhero mutants fight a new nemesis from the U.S. Government. Hugh Jackman, Patrick Stewart, Halle Berry, Ian McKellan.

## 8:00 PM – Hospitality Beer Tasting

Join Biermeister Bill Alleman for the crème of the beer selection that makes our RG famous!

## 9:00 PM – Hospitality Ice Cream Sundaes

Come make your own frozen dairy creation!

## 9:30 PM – Movies Bringing Down the House (2003, PG 13, 1:43)

A dateless lawyer thinks he's meeting the Internet woman of his dreams, but she turns out to be far from what he imagined. Steve Martin, Queen Latifah, Eugene Levy.

## 9:30 PM – Frost Sexual Trivia Challenge

Guys, gals, bring your curiosity (if not your significant other) down to the Frost Conference Room and try out your sexual trivia knowledge! Prize awarded to the winning team! Moderated by Laurie Levesque.

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### 10:00 PM – Gifted Children

Room closes and reopens at 7:00AM.

### 11:00 PM – Hospitality Shrimp Feast

Come celebrate the arrival of these tasty tropical crustaceans and accompanying cocktail sauce!

### 11:30 PM – Movies

**28 Days Later  
(2003, R, 1:53)**

A London man wakes up from a four-week coma to discover that England has been destroyed by a virus, which turns its victims into compulsive killers. Critically hailed as one of the scariest movies in decades.

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### 7:00 AM – Gifted Children

Room opens.

### 7:30-9:30 AM – Hospitality Breakfast

Breakfast Coordinator Bette Lewicke hosts the morning meal.

### 8:30 AM – Gifted Children

Materials to make cardboard snakes, jump ropes, necklaces, etc. arrive.

### 9:00 AM – Games Backgammon Tournament Begins

Come join us for Backgammon! Winner announced after the 8PM Contests in Hospitality.

### 9:00 AM – Games Contests Start

Eyeball Benders:

Test your powers of observation! Can you identify these common objects photographed at uncommon angles?

Puzzles:

A mélange of puzzles designed to stimulate the most RG-impaired brain.

Turn in your entries by 6PM to win a nifty prize!

### 9:00 AM – Movies Cartoons

Various – Spongebob Squarepants, Dexter's Laboratory, Bugs Bunny, etc.

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### **10:00 AM – Frost CASA (Althea Valentine)**

Learn about Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of NH, a program that trains volunteers to be advocates for abused and neglected children in the child welfare and juvenile court systems, and how you might get involved in your own local neighborhood program.

### **10:00 AM – Hawthorne Big Brothers/Big Sisters (Cary Flanagan, Jennifer Bartlett)**

Cary and Jennifer represent Brothers/Big Sisters of Greater Manchester, NH, a chapter of the national organization that supports our youth by providing them with adult mentors. Join them to learn about the program, and how you can get involved in your own local neighborhood.

### **10:00 AM – Room #1215, Adjoining Hospitality Silent Auction/Book Sale**

Silent Auction/Book Sale begins, 10AM – 5:00 PM

### **10:00 AM – Gifted Children**

Materials for the Marshmallow & Toothpick Sculpture Contest arrive. Judging commences after the Bean & Spoon Race at 1:15 PM.

### **10:15 AM – Movies Spy Kids (2001, PG, 1:28)**

The children of a mom & dad pair of U.S. Superspies have to save them from a nefarious kidnapper. Antonio Banderas, Carla Guino.

### **11:00 AM – Room #1215, Adjoining Hospitality Young Mensans**

Brief meeting for Young Mensans with Young Mensans Coordinator Ben Thompson. Come by and introduce yourself!

### **11:00 AM – Frost The Paranormal as Early Science (Dann Anthony Mauro)**

The early histories of virtually every recorded society record the phenomena of Vampires; werewolves; witches; and demons. Believers in the occult argue this to be proof of the paranormal through independent and reproducible phenomena. Rather, the paranormal reflects the earliest use of the scientific method - for example, the vampire was a perfectly logical explanation, based upon reproducible observations but incorrect presumptions. Come join Dann for this presentation.

Topics to be covered:

- The nearly universal belief in Vampires, Werewolves, Witches, Dragons, etc.

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- How did these beliefs reach every corner of the earth; truth in their existence; oversoul; or reproducible results from independent “scientists”?
- How aboriginals, peasants used early forms of the scientific method to arrive at logical conclusions
- Continued belief in the modern age - wishful thinking?
- How do the legends hold up to the scientific method today?

### **11:00 AM – Hawthorne Going Native! (Charles “Bud” Thompson)**

Join Bud Thompson, curator of the Mount Kearsarge Indian Museum, Education and Cultural Center, for a peek into the lifestyle, customs and beliefs of North American Indians. The Museum, located in Warner, NH, is a non-profit organization dedicated to increasing public awareness of Native American history, traditions, philosophy, and art. MKIM, through its exhibits and programs, offers insights into the Native American heritage and imparts an understanding of the natural world and the resource conservation practices and respectful land stewardship carried on by the Native Americans over many thousands of years. The museum houses one of the finest collections of Native American art and artifacts in northern New England.

Scattered throughout the grounds are replicas of various American Indian dwellings. A winding trail through Medicine Woods gives visitors the opportunity to learn how American Indians used plants from their environment for medicines, food, dyes, and building materials. Anna’s Garden, named after a Hopi friend of Bud and Nancy Thompson, displays ancient varieties of corn, beans, squash and other plants that were cultivated by Native American nations for generations. MKIM will open May 1 for the 2004 season.

### **11:45AM – Hospitality Teens Pick Up Lunch**

Teens, please get your lunch for the Teen Lunch at Noon in the Movies Room.

### **12:00-1:00 PM – Hospitality Lunch in Acapulco!**

¡Bienvenidos a Acapulco! Enjoy a lunchtime offering of various South-of-the-Border delicacies al estilo americano.

### **12:00 PM – Movies Teen Lunch**

Teens, grab your lunch in Hospitality and bring it to the Movies Room to join Ben Thompson, Young Mensans Coordinator for a short introduction and then to watch the teen movie.

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### **12:15 – Ferris Bueller’s Day Off (1986, PG13, 1:43)**

An ingenious young man plans a day of joyful escape from the banality of High School. A great comedy from director John Hughes. Matthew Broderick, Jennifer Grey

### **12:30 PM – Hawthorne Dream On! Using Dream Analysis for Self-Exploration (Bette Lewicke, PhD)**

Bette Lewicke, a psychologist at the Crotched Mountain School and dream analyst extraordinaire, will discuss techniques for working with dreams, including tips for recalling dreams, relating dream content to life issues, answering questions with dreams, and “changing the channel” in a dream.

### **1:00 PM – Frost The Free State Project (Jason Sorens, PhD)**

The Free State Project is an effort to recruit 20,000 people from all walks of life to move to New Hampshire – people who believe that government exists at most to protect the rights of its citizenry, not to provide for that citizenry or punish individuals for activities that do not infringe on the rights of others. New Hampshire won a vote of FSP members in September 2003, and the FSP is now obtaining signatures from those willing to move. So far, over 5,000

libertarians around the country have committed to moving to New Hampshire.

### **1:00 PM – Games Diplomacy Tournament Begins**

Betrayal, lies, intrigue! No, it’s not the latest reality television, but the game of Diplomacy! The setting is early 20<sup>th</sup> century Europe and the goal is to conquer your enemies (and eventually your allies) through strategy and negotiation in order to gain supremacy over the map. The game has few rules and new players are enthusiastically encouraged. However, the faint of heart are forewarned that the levels of treachery and disloyalty make Survivor look like a church social! Run by Darlene Alleman and Ken Lindell of Frankfort, ME, who is currently busy running for Maine State Representative. Winner announced during the RG Awards, after the 8PM Contests in Hospitality.

### **1:00 PM – Gifted Children Bead Party**

Beads, string and other materials to make necklaces, bracelets and other beaded items arrive.

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**2:00 PM – Frost**

**Speak Up! Membership Survey  
(Bromley Baril & John Sheehan, PhD)**

NH and ME members, please take a few moments to make your opinions heard, fill out a membership survey to give feedback on how to improve the local Mensa chapter. Participants get a good chance to win a free Mensa mug!

**2:00 PM – Hawthorne  
Canterbury Shaker Village  
(Darryl Thompson)**

The Shakers were a celibate, communal religious group that originated in England around 1747, in 1774 immigrated to the New World where they gained American converts and established communities where they practiced their faith and unique way of life, and proceeded to make historically significant contributions to such diverse fields as technological invention and improvement, medicine, agriculture, social thought, furniture design, architecture, music, and sacred dance.

Canterbury Shaker Village in Canterbury, New Hampshire, had its initial founding in 1782 and was formally organized in 1792. The last Canterbury Shaker, Sister Ethel Hudson, died in 1992, but there is today one surviving Shaker Village—the Sabbathday Lake Shaker Community in New Gloucester, Maine. Come learn about the Shakers and the Canterbury museum.

**2:00 PM – Movies  
Kids Popcorn Party**

Popcorn provided for the kiddies while they settle in for a movie for the younger crowd.

**2:15 PM – Finding Nemo  
(2003, G, 1:40)**

A fish goes on an adventure around the seas near Australia in search of his one and only son. A new classic from Disney/Pixar. Albert Brooks, Ellen DeGeneres

**2:30 PM – Frost  
Get a Job! How to Conduct a  
Successful Job Search  
(Kevin Stack)**

Kevin Stack of Robert Half, International joins us to discuss how to conduct a successful job search. Immediately followed by a resumé critique session for those who bring their paperwork.

**3:00 PM – Hawthorne  
Girls Just Wanna Have Guns!  
(Penny Dean)**

The November issue of *American Rifleman* noted that, after September 11<sup>th</sup>, the number of women enrolling in firearm safety courses in our nation doubled, as a great number of “soccer moms” because “shooter moms”. Concern for family safety may very well be a motivating factor, but this increase was the exclamation point on an already growing trend of women’s involvement with



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firearms, as encouraged by NRA programs like "Women on Target" and outdoor sporting programs like the University of Wisconsin's national Becoming an Outdoorswoman (BOW) program and the National Wild Turkey Foundation's Women in the Outdoors program, sponsoring female camaraderie and enthusiasm through women-oriented field activities. R.I. Wilson recently released a book entitled "Silk & Steel", outlining how American women have been an integral part of our firearms heritage from the days of the colonists and the Wild West through today. Despite what pictures mainstream media might portray, women today involved in shooting in increasing numbers for a variety of reasons: self-defense, desire to hunt, desire to share in activities with a significant other who is an avid hunter or shooter, getting in touch with their heritage or grandfathers or uncles or fathers who were sportsmen, enjoyment of the sport aspect of shooting or just because shooting bullets consistently well into a target on the range or a tin can at the quarry is just plain fun!

Come join host Penny Dean as she explores the reasons many women are attracted to firearms, and why they should be. She will bring accessories, answer questions and cover some of the networking issues newcomers to firearms have - what to purchase, where to find it, where to find good instruction,

how to get in touch with their local range, etc. Emphasis is on women and firearms, but everyone is welcome to attend.

### **3:00PM - Room #1215, Adjoining Hospitality Creativity (Joe Zanca)**

This fun session will learn ya how ta think outside the box, think creatively, and how ta brainstorm. Laughter and a good time is par for Joe's presentation. Joe has bee involved with creative problem solving, Odyssey of the Mind and Destination ImagiNation for over 20 years.

### **4:00 PM - Gifted Children Bean & Spoon Race**

Kids of all ages! Adults and kids form teams to compete to see who ends up with the most beans in their bucket in the allotted time. Moderated by Julie Thompson. Awards presented at the end, followed by sculpture judging and awards.

### **4:00 PM - Hawthorne Sights on Gun Rights (Penny Dean)**

As anyone who has ever dealt with the issue of buying a handgun, transporting a handgun, applying for a concealed carry permit, or lawfully carrying concealed can tell you, something as simple as getting your firearm from point A to point B for a competitive shoot

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can become nothing short of a research project (and might even involve an attorney, as the attempt to even purchase firearms after certain minor juvenile offenses can result in an automatic felony charge). With September 11<sup>th</sup> events bringing new concern for security as evidenced by such issues as the arming of commercial airline pilots, more Americans are finding out firsthand the often questionable restrictions and legal issues they face as lawful new gun owners. An unarmed society is an easily managed society. The correlation between high crime rate and unarmed citizenry can be seen through comparison of "gun" states to anti-gun states, and comparison of countries that allow individual gun ownership to those, like England, that have abolished it.

Join attorney Penny Dean as she explores why certain governmental and political segments have targeted gun rights for restriction, discuss restrictive legislation, and explain why gun rights are important to you, the average citizen, and why they need to be preserved even if you elect to never own a firearm yourself.

### **4:15 PM – Movies Freaky Friday (2003, PG, 1:27)**

A mother and daughter find themselves in each other's bodies one unlucky Friday. Jamie Lee Curtis, Lindsay Lohan.

### **4:30 PM – Frost Keeping the Faith (John Swett, Robert Wines, PhD)**

Join private educator John Swett and retired attorney Robert Wines for a presentation on injustice and much-needed reform in America's legal and education systems. John Swett is the talented creator of the artwork displayed in Frost for the day, and the session will end with a round-table discussion concerning education in America and a chance to meet the artist. Introduced and moderated by John McGondel.

This workshop may be recorded for use in later possible discussions. Copies of any audio or video, or digital transcripts from these two meetings will be made available by either John, through PlatoEuclid Press, or by the Southern New Hampshire University Bookstore. Please direct all inquiries to John at [platoeuclid@hotmail.com](mailto:platoeuclid@hotmail.com).

### **Approx. 4:30PM – Gifted Children Judging of the Sculptures**

Judging of the Marshmallow & Toothpick Sculptures and presentation of awards. Moderated by Julie Thompson.

### **5:00 PM – Room #1215, Adjoining Hospitality Silent Auction/Book Sale**

Silent Auction/Book Sale ends, winners are announced.

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### **5:00 PM – Hawthorne Shoot for the Stars! Astronomy Workshop (Ed Ting)**

Join Ed for discussion on what you can see in the night sky. Astronomy lecture, followed by telescope viewing in the parking lot.

### **5:00 PM – Hospitality Cheese It! (Darlene Alleman)**

Brie, Gouda, Swiss, Cheddar.... Are you a turophile? Well, come join us on a cheese tasting adventure. We'll be sampling (along with an appropriate wine) an assortment of unusual cheeses from Fromaggio Kitchen, a cheese shop in Cambridge, MA that offers a selection of 200 + varieties. Those who consider Cheese Whiz a suitable alternative may want to spend their time elsewhere..!

### **6:00PM - Games**

Eyeball Benders contest closes. Puzzle contest closes. Winners announced during the RG Awards, after the 8PM Contests in Hospitality.

### **6:00 PM – Movies Teen Pizza Party**

Teens, come join Ben Thompson for pizza and the teen dinnertime movie.

### **6:15 PM – The Breakfast Club (1985, R, 1:37)**

Five mismatched teens – a brain, a jock, a princess, a basket case, and a criminal – get to know each other during an all-day Saturday detention. A thoughtful film about life's expectations of us. Director John Hughes. Judd Nelson, Emilio Estevez, Molly Ringwald, Anthony Michael Hall.

### **6:30 PM – Dartmouth Buffet “Luau” Dinner**

All dressed up with no place to go? Take a break from Hospitality and partake of the hotel-provided dinner fare. Either buffet (if we have at least 50 attending) or alternate dinner fare.

See the Registrar in advance to purchase a ticket, \$23/person, \$12.95/kid's meal. Menu posted in Registration area.

### **7:00 PM – Gifted Children**

Materials arrive to make felt and foam turtles/VW Beetles/etc.

### **7:30 PM – Dartmouth Live Auction**

Joe Zanca auctions off any remainders from the Silent Auction/Book Sale and other fun items!

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### 8:00 PM – Hospitality CONTESTS & AWARDS Drinks

Bartender Bromley Baril hands out Headhunter drinks while the contests begin! Sign up at Registration if you want to join in the fun! Followed by the RG Awards.

Contests:

- Best Hawaiian Shirt
- Men's Wet T-Shirt/Biggest Nipple
- How Many Mensans Can You Fit in a 10X T-Shirt
- Biggest Butt

Other Awards & Prizes:

- Eyebenders
- Puzzle Contest
- Backgammon/Diplomacy Tournaments
- Best Hugs
- Kissing Booth
- Icebreaker Prizes
- Special Awards

### 8:00 PM – Games Cranium Game

OK, you've now been drinking for 24 hours and it'll come in handy with this game. Designed by Microsoft engineers to stimulate creativity, it's a team game where players are required to sculpt figures in clay, whistle tunes, and act like a famous person. Oh

come on, it'll be fun! Award given at the end.

### 8:00 PM – Movies Bruce Almighty (2003, PG13, 1:42)

A man gets the power of God for one week, after claiming that he could do a better job. Jim Carrey, Jennifer Aniston, Morgan Freeman.

### 9:30 PM – Hospitality International Coffee/Like Water for Chocolate Orgy

Come join us for chocolate delicacies to tickle your taste buds, accompanied by coffee beverages from around the world!

### 10:00 PM – Gifted Children

Room closes and reopens at 7:00AM.

### 10:00 PM – Pool Area Tiki Pool Party

The hotel has extended pool hours past 9PM for a Mensa pool party. The pool is open to other hotel guests at this time. Please adhere to the hotel pool area rules.

### 10:00 PM – Games Poker Tournament

Proceeds go to the Scholarship Fund. Award given at the end or at Sunday Brunch.

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### **10:00 PM – Movies Seabiscuit (2003, PG13, 2:21)**

An unlikely team of misfits achieves excellence in Depression-era racing, and becomes a symbol

of hope for the nation. Nominated for 7 Oscars, including Best Picture, Art Direction, Cinematography, and Editing. Jeff Bridges, Tobey Maguire, Chris Cooper.

## SUNDAY

### **7:00 AM – Gifted Children**

Room opens.

### **7:00 AM to 1:00 PM – Hotel Restaurant Area Brunch**

Mensa Brunch in the back room of the hotel restaurant area in the lobby. See the Registrar to purchase tickets. \$9.95/person.

### **7:30-9:30 AM – Hospitality**

Limited cold breakfast fare offered.

### **12:00 PM – Hospitality Lunch**

Limited lunch fare offered.

### **1:00 PM – Gifted Children, Games, Movies, Smoking Hospitality**

All rooms close except for Hospitality. Rooms must be clean and vacated by 2PM. Any volunteer help is **MOST** appreciated!

### **1:30 PM – Hospitality Special Business Meeting**

All members welcome! Special Business Meeting called for the 2004

Election Committee to make/accept candidate nominations for the NH & ME Mensa chapter ExComm position elections. Ballots will be distributed in the April issue of Momentum.

### **3:00 PM – Hospitality**

Room closes. Hospitality and prep room must be clean and vacated by 4PM. Any volunteer help cleaning/loading the trailer is **MOST** appreciated!

### **Best RG Picture Contest!**

Think you have the best 2004 RG picture out there? Let US be the judges! Submit your entries via email to webmaster Bill Alleman at [webmaster@nh.us.mensa.org](mailto:webmaster@nh.us.mensa.org). Contest closes March 1 with winner to be posted at <http://www.nh.us.mensa.org/rgnews.shtml> shortly thereafter. The prize? A \$10 Mensa Boutique gift certificate and your photo and name immortalized on the RG web page (at least until the 2005 RG planning starts...)!

## SPEAKERS & TOPICS

### **Bromley Baril - RG Primer, Speak Up!**

Bromley is a retired alcohol and drug counselor who has worked in numerous social service agencies throughout New England. Having finally decided she needed to make a decent wage, she entered the field of IT, and currently works at Liberty Mutual in Portsmouth, NH. Bromley joined Mensa in 2002 and has become active in the local group activities. She is currently Membership Coordinator for NH and ME Mensa, and hosts the popular "Appetite for Discussion" event in Portsmouth.

### **Wendy Birchmere - RG Primer**

Wendy is a public high school guidance counselor in her "real life". In her free time, she enjoys geocaching with husband, Tom, whom she met through Mensa! They live in Needham with their five felines and a "museum" of Teddy Roosevelt memorabilia.

Wendy has held many positions in Boston Mensa, from LocSec and RG Chair to her current position as Area Coordinator. She joined Mensa about 30 years ago but was inactive for many years. She's been on the ExComm for about 10 years.

### **Althea Valentine - CASA**

Althea is the Resource Development and Community

Relations Coordinator of Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of NH, a program that trains volunteers to be advocates for abused and neglected children in the child welfare and juvenile court systems. Until three years ago, she had spent her whole life in Connecticut, working as a volunteer for a wide variety of nonprofit organizations and as a ten-year Associate Director of Covenant to Care, an interfaith nonprofit serving abused, neglected and impoverished children. Upon moving north by several states, she considered branching out to serve other populations but; in the end, found that her heart was still impassioned by aiding abused and neglected children. Althea has a Bachelor's degree in English and Secondary Education and a Masters of Management in Nonprofit and Public Administration. Her Master's thesis was entitled "Good Fundraising Events Must Do More Than Raise Funds: What They Can Accomplish and How".

### **John Sheehan, PhD - CASA, Speak Up!**

John is senior counsel at Apogee Communications, a New Hampshire-based communications consulting group, and serves New Hampshire Mensa as Public Relations Officer. He is an accredited professional in public relations with substantial experience in communication

analysis and planning. He is an accredited member of both the Public Relations Society of America and La Société Canadienne des Relations Publiques. He was elected president of the Public Relations Society of America's Boston Chapter, and serves as professional advisor to public relations students at Emerson College and Boston University's College of Communication. John worked with members of the ExComm to develop the member survey that will be available at the RG and in Momentum.

John is also a Guardian ad Litem, a CASA of NH - trained volunteer who is appointed by a district or family court judge to represent the child victims in cases of abuse and neglect. CASAs are the eyes and the ears of the judge, and their role in abuse and neglect proceedings is to present the court with a unique "child centered" perspective regarding what is in the best interests of the child. To prepare their recommendations, CASA volunteers talk with the child, parents, family members, social workers, psychologists, educators and other persons involved in the child's life. Most importantly, CASA volunteers visit with the child at least once a month in order to gain and maintain a continuing understanding of his/her situation. Forty hours of pre-service training are required, as are ongoing professional development courses. CASA of New Hampshire currently has 400 volunteers advocating for approximately 1000 children. Since

1989, 3000 children have been served, but to be able to respond to all the requests from courts, at least 100 additional volunteers are needed.

### **Cary Flanagan - Big Brothers/Big Sisters**

Cary is the Program Manager and Enrollment Specialist at Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Greater Manchester, NH, a chapter of the national organization that supports our youth by providing them with adult mentors. She has an M.Ed in Counseling from Notre Dame College, Manchester, NH and a BA in Sociology and Anthropology from Grinnell College in Iowa. She has been working at Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Manchester, Inc. for sixteen years and has been in the field of social services more than twenty years. She is also an avid photographer and quilter.

### **Jennifer Bartlett - Big Brothers/Big Sisters**

Jennifer graduated recently from Wheelock College in Boston, MA, with a BSW. She joined Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Manchester in August, 2003 and has served as Program Coordinator and Match Support Specialist. She is also busy planning her June wedding.

### **Dann Anthony Mauro - The Paranormal As Early Science**

Dann has a degree in chemistry, and 20 years experience in scientific communication in the fields of



chemistry, biotechnology and materials engineering. His field research in the occult has taken him (among other places) to the soothsayers of South Africa and Kenya, among self-professed “vampires” of the Gothic subculture, the shores of Loch Ness, the haunted castle of Longleat in England, and the catacombs of Edinburgh, Scotland’s tunnel cities.

### **Charles “Bud” Thompson - Going Native!**

Later in his career (see Darryl Thompson below), Bud co-founded, with his wife Nancy, the Mount Kearsarge Indian Museum in Warner, New Hampshire. This institution is today annually visited by thousands of adults and children and has especially heavy visitation by students from public and private schools. He also founded a program, administered for some years by MKIM, that during its period of existence sought to turn around “at risk” youngsters by sparking their enthusiasm for nature lore and American Indian history and culture and thus stimulating enjoyable learning experiences. Bud has given courses at community colleges and other institutions of higher learning. He started a beautification program that for some years distributed hundreds of tree seedlings to the general public and several historic sites at no cost to the recipients. He has organized shipments of clothing to benefit low-income Native Americans living on a western reservation.

### **Bette Lewicke – Dream On! Using Dream Analysis for Self-Exploration**

Bette Lewicke, PhD, a psychologist at the Crotched Mountain School and dream analyst extraordinaire, will discuss techniques for working with dreams, including tips for recalling dreams, relating dream content to life issues, answering questions with dreams, and “changing the channel” in a dream. Bette is a long-time Mensan, RG volunteer and all around good egg. She is also our Saturday morning Breakfast Coordinator.

### **Jason Sorens – Free State Project**

Jason Sorens, PhD, is Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Free State Project, a movement formed to identify the best state in the country for libertarians looking to relocate. New Hampshire won a vote of FSP members in September 2003, and the FSP is now obtaining signatures from those willing to move. So far, over 5,000 libertarians around the country have committed to moving to New Hampshire. Dr. Sorens’ day job is Lecturer of Political Science at Yale University.

### **Darryl Thompson – Canterbury Shaker Village**

Darryl Thompson is one of the very few people in the United States who have both lived among the Shakers and engaged in academic study of Shaker history, culture, and religion. Darryl’s father, Charles “Bud” Thompson,



originated the concept of the historical restoration at Canterbury Shaker Village, co-founded (with three Shaker Sisters) the museum there, and assembled the original collection around which that institution coalesced. Darryl lived full-time and part-time with the Canterbury Shakers for over 32 years and attended the University of New Hampshire at Durham where he earned bachelor's and master's degrees in American history and did course work and thesis work related to aspects of Shaker history. Articles written by Darryl have appeared in various publications, several books, and even as liner notes for several CDs of Shaker music. He is employed as a historical interpreter at Canterbury Shaker Village and lectures on the Shakers.

Darryl's father, Bud, (see Charles "Bud" Thompson above) originated the concept of the historical restoration at Canterbury Shaker Village and his endeavors sparked the effort to conserve and restore the Village. With Sisters Bertha Lindsay, Lillian Phelps and Marguerite Frost he co-founded the museum, which became the nucleus around which Canterbury Shaker Village, Inc., the nonprofit organization that currently owns and administers the site, was formed. The museum's original holdings consisted of collections assembled by Bud. He brought "history to the people" by giving thousands of lectures to organizations throughout New England on such subjects as the cultural achievements of the

Native Americans, the accomplishments of the Shakers, nature lore, and various aspects of Americana. Bud's lectures on the Shakers played a consequential part in the enormous growth of interest in the Shakers that took place in the late 20th century.

### **Kevin Stack, Robert Half International – Get a Job! How to Conduct a Successful Job Search/ Resumé Critique Workshop**

Kevin is an experienced recruiting manager for Robert Half Finance & Accounting, with 8 years in the organizational development, staffing field including 5 years in a Fortune 50 corporation, 2 years independent consulting and 1 year specializing in finding finance and accounting professionals for companies. An honors graduate of the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, his MBA is focused on Finance and Accounting. Additionally he served 12 years in the United States Marine Corps with duties ranging from NATO Security, Combat Infantry Leadership, and Intelligence to International Civil Affairs.

### **Joe Zanca – Creative Thinking/ Brainstorming, Auctioneer**

Joe is known for auctioning a plain, ordinary \$5 bill for over \$1,000 this past AG. Joe was LocSec of New Hampshire Mensa for 4 years, RVC for 6 years and runs the Mensa Boutique.

## **Penny Dean – Girls Just Wanna Have Guns!, Sights on Gun Rights**

Penny Dean is a litigator and sole general practitioner with a practice located in Concord, New Hampshire. She is a shooter, hunter, and gun owner and is not afraid to publicly support gun owners *and their guns*. She is a member of and consulting attorney for Gun Owners of New Hampshire (GONH), has spoken before the NH legislature on the issue of gun rights, and is one of a handful of NH attorneys who are often called to defend gun owners in a variety of jurisdictions whose gun ownership rights have been infringed or who have been wrongfully accused of unlawfully using or possessing firearms. She is a graduate of Lethal Force Institute (LFI) I and II, and has been written up in "Combat Handgun" and other shooting publications. She is originally from Michigan having grown up on a working farm, possesses an MIP and JD from Franklin Pierce Law Center, and a BA in Justice, Morality and the Constitution from James Madison College at Michigan State University. She is licensed to practice in all federal courts in Maine, Massachusetts and New Hampshire.

## **John Swett – Keeping the Faith**

John Swett has a BA in mathematics and a masters in Education. He has spent most of his adult life as an educator, in both the public and private sectors. He has taught at every

academic grade and level, from pre-K to College senior. Years ago, he had a private business where parents of students from across the United States would call him for advice concerning their children. He devised effective programs which would, and did, keep certain kids from being "Coded" and "Auto-IEP'd." He designed, developed, arranged for financing (from very wealthy Korean and Japanese businessmen), and set a firm marketing program to initiate a lucrative and unique "English as a Second Language Program" for White Pines College, now defunct, replaced by that which now goes by the name of Chester College of New England.

He is a self-taught painter (his paintings grace the covers of several of Mensan author John McGondel's books, published by PlatoEuclid Press). He has built his own log home for his family—where a natural uphill spring filters down in through his house providing fresh, clear water without a pump. Professor Swett has even built a sailboat, which he uses at Lake Winnepesaukee to further his education in astronomy and astral-physics. At present, he is on a self-proscribed sabbatical so as to indulge his many academic and professionally-developmental engagements.

Some of his hobbies include psychology, military tactics, engineering design, computer research, legal studies, and of course, -developing new painting techniques with acrylics and the

subsequent electronic manipulation thereof. He is in the midst of collaborating with John McGondel on their combined opus: "College of Dreams/ Collage of Nightmares — The Story of the Smallest College President in America." He traces his family accurately back through and before the Mayflower Pilgrims.

### **Robert Wines, PhD - Keeping the Faith**

Robert Wines, PhD is a retired attorney and former member of the New Mexico and New Hampshire Bar Associations. He has appeared and successfully argued in thousands of court cases, ranging through the gamut of venues: NHES, Social Security Administration, NH Department of Motor Vehicles' administration hearings, District, Probate, Superior, Supreme, and Federal courts. Bob, when in law school, dutifully led a small team of fellow law students through a successful class-action lawsuit against the school they were currently attending, Michigan State.

### **Ed Ting - Shoot for the Stars!**

Ed is a well-known amateur astronomer, whose works have appeared in *Sky & Telescope*, *Amateur Astronomy*, and the upcoming (May 2004) *Night Sky Magazine*. His web site, [www.scopereviews.com](http://www.scopereviews.com), has been visited millions of times. He was recently selected by Amazon.com to write their featured telescope reviews.

### **Darlene Alleman - Cheese It!**

Darlene, this year's RG Games Chair, has been a member of NH Mensa since 1997. She met her husband Bill at an RG in 1995 and has been an enthusiastic attendee ever since. She spends her free time tending to her poultry, which she loves to discuss at every opportunity.

### **Lynn Pina - RG Chair**

Lynn will be MC'ing various RG events, providing intros where needed, and overseeing the Awards Saturday night. She joined Mensa in 2001 and, masochist that she is, keeps coming back, formerly as host of the Mensa Shooters and Appetite for Discussion monthly events, this year as Programming Chair and RG Chair. She spends her days looking for bread & butter work (she hosts the Hire-A-Mensan SIG Yahoo Group as well), and her nights plotting to overthrow the world through her exploits as a would-be executive protection agent and writer.

### **Need more info? Want to volunteer? Need to follow up with our speakers?**

Email RG Chair Lynn Pina at [Lpb52@cotse.net](mailto:Lpb52@cotse.net) and let her know - she'll put you in touch!

## **This Year's Theme**

The Old Man went south this year, so we brought him back for the "I Wanna Go Where It's Warm" Reunion Tour on the infamous 12th Floor of the Holiday Inn at the Center of New Hampshire! The Gathering this year celebrates many things: the return to the End of the Universe, the passing of the Old Man, new events/workshops with a few old favorites thrown in, celebration of tropical warmth in the middle of the coldest winter New England has seen in 20 years, and hearty New Hampshire hospitality in the form of Friday dinner and food and drink all weekend. We hope you enjoy this year's RG!

## **Meet the RG Committee**

**Chair**

**Co-Chair**

**Assistant Chair**

**Registrar**

**Hospitality**

**Speakers**

**Games**

**Movies**

**Biermeister**

**Icemeister**

**Youth Coordinator**

**RG Primer**

**Auctioneer**

**Program Book, Logo**

Lynn Pina

John Lewicke

John McGondel

Deb Stone

Sue Barnes

Lynn Pina

Darlene Alleman

Rich Conde

Bill Alleman

Jim Barnes

Ben Thompson

Bromley Baril,

Wendy Birchmere

Joe Zanca

Lynn Pina

**MANY THANKS TO  
ALL THE VOLUNTEERS  
WHO HELPED TO MAKE  
THIS GATHERING POSSIBLE!**