

24 Friday 6:00 pm

Open Mike

(ME, 4th Friday) at First Church of Winsted, CT. This is a GREAT Church with Awesome Acoustics. Fran will also be taping and putting the whole deal on the local cable channel and probably elsewhere too. Jamming begins at 9 pm, amps will be there so musicians will only have to plug in. Donations in the basket, food and drinks available- very nice people. Sign up is by email to Deb Storrs info@firstchurchofwinsted.org . Other info, contact Fran Devevo at 860-738-8488 weekends and 9-10pm or email mensafran@yahoo.com

24 Friday 6:30 pm

Diner Dinner

(semimonthly, 2nd and 4th Fridays) at Olympia Diner, Rte 5, Newington, just north of the Berlin town line and North East Utilities. Menu ranges from toasted cheese sandwich to steak and fish dinners. Basic bar menu available, no happy hour prices, but the food is good and very reasonable. Questions? For info, contact Howard Brender at 860-635-5673 or howiebren@aol.com
Subject: Diner Dinner

26 Sunday 11:00 am

Cookout/Picnic and Boomerang Demonstration

Join Vermont Mensa for a Cookout/Picnic and Boomerang Demonstration Sunday, July 26th at Four Springs Farm, an organic vegetable and poultry farm in Royalton, Vermont. We will gather at the farm at 11:00 AM at the reserved Picnic Pavilion. The Pavilion is equipped with running hot and cold water, a barbeque pit and picnic tables. Bring your own dishes and meats for grilling or a prepared picnic lunch. The farm also offers a catering service and if anyone is interested in having their lunch catered or purchasing the farm's organic chicken ready for the grill please contact Ted Blodgett at terribleblodge@comcast.net (802) 659--0464 before July 1st to make arrangements. After lunch at approximately 2:00 PM Jeremy Levine of Crescent Moon Boomerangs (crescentmoon-boomerangs.com/) will give us a talk about the history of boomerangs and how to throw them. Weather and wind permitting he will also give us a demonstration of boomerang throwing and those that are interested will have the opportunity to give it a try. For anyone not interested in

the boomerangs the farm offers other activities from pick your own vegetables to a Valley Quest treasure hunt that will take you on a scenic adventure hike. Access to the White River is only 5 miles away for anyone who would like to swim, canoe or kayak, too.

DIRECTIONS:

Take I-89 to Exit 3 (Bethel & Royalton). Turn left on Rt. 107 and go east to Rt. 14. Turn left and take Rt. 14 north approx. 3 miles. Find Post Farm Rd. on the right. Take it to the top (1 mile) to Gee Hill Rd. Turn left. Four Springs Farm is the first place on the left, # 776. A map is available on their website:

www.fourspringsfarm.com/directions.php

Camping Saturday night July 25th. A group tent site will be available for our use at approximately \$10 per person (actual cost will depend on the number of people and number of tents). The farm also offers individual tent camping sites with a platform for \$25 a night and a rustic cabin for \$75 a night (2 night stay req.). Those interested in spending a night camping at the farm can meet with Ted Blodgett the afternoon of Saturday July 25th. Contact Ted at terribleblodge@comcast.net if you are interested in the group site or contact the farm at clelands@valley.net (802 763-7296) to reserve a private tent site or the cabin. The farm has no facilities for RVs but RV camping is available in nearby Randolph Center at Lake Champagne Campground: www.lakechampagne.com/
NOTE: This is NOT Champlain. RSVP: Ted Blodgett at terribleblodge@comcast.net or (802) 65960464

LOOKING AHEAD

Aug 8 Saturday 2:30pm

Book Group

discusses LAST OF THE JUST by Andre Schwarz-Bart (fiction) in Wethersfield ? Schwarz-Bart's 1959 novel is a chronicle of Jewish persecution beginning in England in 1105 and ending with the Holocaust. This book was a huge hit when first released, eventually being translated into several languages. It is both a historical document and a compelling piece of fiction. According to Jewish tradition, 36 "just men" are born in every generation to take the burden of the world's suffering upon themselves. This book tells the story of two Jews, divided by eight centuries, who are perse-

cuted to death, becoming part of the catastrophic history of the Jewish people.

REGIONAL GATHERINGS

July 1 - 5

MENSA NATIONAL ANNUAL GATHERING

Pittsburgh, PA. Omni William Penn Hotel.

Full registration rates, according to date received by the National Office:

\$85 by March 31, 2009

\$95 by June 26, 2009

\$110 after June 26, 2009

Young Mensan rates, by age:

4 and under: free

Ages 5-12: \$30

Ages 13-20: \$50 Day rates:

Adults: \$30 per calendar day

Young Mensans: \$15

<http://www.ag2009.us.mensa.org//AM/Template.cfm?Section=Home8>

July 10-12

Mensa Canada AGM

NOW is the time to start planning your vacation so that it includes visiting Ottawa in July, and taking in the Mensa Canada Annual Gathering! This is a great opportunity to visit your neighbour to the north!

1. Ottawa is our national capital, full of attractions unique to Canada. It's a beautiful city full of rivers, canals and walking paths. Our Parliament buildings look like a castle and one of the AG events is a private tour given by our own Mensan Cabinet Minister.

2. We are also only one bridge away from the province of Quebec; famous for French culture, French fashion design, and poutine (French fries covered with cheese and gravy). La conférence sera en format bilingue. Veuillez trouver des détails en français au site web.

3. The AG will be held at Carleton University. This will mean it is more casual than conferences staged in hotels, but the residence rates are so low you can bring your family or extend your trip. (It's the same rate before & after the conference!) Plan to stay a couple of weeks and

travel around. Incidentally, the Governor General's foot-guard is billeted at the university and you'll have access to free demonstration practices!

4. We are a 12 hour drive from Chicago, 8 hours from New York and conveniently close to Pittsburg if you want to do an AG combination. Of course, Ottawa has an International airport.

5. There are many exciting speakers, tours, and activities all of which can be found on the web site.

Details and registration can be found at:
On peut trouver des détails et inscription at www.mensa-ottawa.org



September 11-13

Please join us at the **Banff Regional Gathering** hosted by Mensa Calgary in one of the most beautiful parts of the world. Combine world-class scenery, a great program, the low Canadian dollar and top minds: the result is a memorable experience. Check out our RG web site at www.mensabanffrg.com for more info.

FROM THE REGIONAL VICE CHAIRMAN**LORI NORRIS****RVCHAT**

Well the Annual Gathering (AG) is finally here. If you're attending, please check out the "Playlist" on American Mensa Limited's (AML) Web site. There are some great Leadership Development Workshops listed. These workshops are not just for current and future officers, but for anyone interested in how Mensa operates. You can apply the skills you gain in these sessions to other organizations or in your professional life.

On Wednesday, July 1st, some of the Region 1'ers will be having dinner together. Contact me if you're interested in joining us.

The AML Web site contains quite a bit of reference material. There are regularly updated handbooks for many of the officer positions. This past year I put in a lot of work on the Area Coordinator and LocSec handbooks. They are both in the final stages of the approval and will be on the Web site soon. Other handbooks including the Membership Officer handbook are close to completion.

Ron and I did some traveling around the Region in May. First, we enjoyed Boston's Mini RG at Cape Cod with about 130 fellow Mensans. Along with about 20 other Connecticut and Western Massachusetts (CTWM) Mensans, we spent a pleasant afternoon collating and preparing the membership directory for mailing. Had a good time, great conversations and a few paper cuts. Then we went to a book discussion meeting here

in Rhode Island and the RI New Member Dinner, which hosted 27 members, both new and experienced. From there, we traveled to upstate New York and participated in a Mensa of Northern New York (MoNNY) Games Night featuring some of this year's Mind Games contestants. The next day we had brunch in Vermont with 15 other members from Vermont, RI, CTWM and Boston. Then on Memorial Day, we spent a sunny day with 41 Mensans at the CTWM New Member Barbecue. Finally, we closed out the month by joining a group of friends outside of Boston for a magnificent Italian dinner. It was a busy month.

Would you like to see an activity, perhaps your favorite pastime, on your local calendar? Consider hosting the event yourself. Contact your group's Program Officer or Area Coordinator for details and help planning the event. Ron and I have hosted events here at our home as well as at public places. Attendance has ranged from two guests to well over 20. Whatever the turnout, both we and our guests had a good time.

This month marks the beginning of my second term as your RVC. I look forward to continuing to work with all of the local groups and doing what I can to make Mensa all that you hope for. As always, I welcome your comments and questions.

- Lori

PUZZLES & QUESTIONS

(Answers may be in next month's Chronicle.)

1. Who was the greatest patron of the arts?
2. How many clerks are there in the United States?
3. What is the most common disaster?
4. Estimate the number of rainy and snowy days that southern Fairfield County has per year.
5. How can people improve their estimating skills?
6. Which major league baseball catcher caught the highest percentage of runners who attempted to steal on him during his career? Who had the best record for a single season?
7. What is the biggest lever in the world?
8. Who was the first pilot to fly around the world solo?
9. What techniques do dramatists use to create suspense?

ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S PUZZLES:

2. What was the greatest number of authors ever listed on a scientific paper?
A: The scientific article with the most co-authors may have been "First Measurement of the Left-Right Cross Section Asymmetry in Z-Boson Production by e+e- Collisions," published in Physical Review Letters. It listed 406 authors on two pages.
4. What percentage of the earth's land is covered by forests?
A: Forests cover about a third of the world's land.
6. At what annual rate is the United States of America's population growing?
A: According to the Census Bureau, the U.S. population is growing about .95% per year. The world population is growing about 1.2% per year.

MENSA MIND GAMES 2009 RESULTS

Mensa members came together April 24 - 26 in Kentucky for the annual Mensa Mind Games(R). For 48 hours straight, they played and rated new board and card games. At the end, they voted for the five games that will bear the Mensa Select(R) seal. To learn about past winners, visit www.mindgames.us.mensa.org.

The 2009 winners are as follows:

Cornerstone

This is a 3-D strategy game requiring a steady hand and clever mind in order to build, climb and race to the top before it all comes tumbling down. www.goodcompanygames.com

Dominion

Players compete to create the best deck of cards by buying action (10 of 25 possible each game), treasure, and victory cards. The deck with the most victory points wins! Order phone: (505) 771- 8813

Marrakech

Each player takes the role of a salesperson who tries to outwit the others. Roll the dice, move Assam, and determine whether you must make a payment to lay a rug. www.fundexgames.com

Stratum

Following the layering laws each player tries to cover up their opponent's pieces. The player with most exposed pieces wins! www.familygamesamerica.com

Tic-Tac-Ku

An exciting twist on the age old favorite, Tic-Tac-Toe. The game has nine playing areas. Each player determines in which playing area his opponent may play. Object: win the most playing areas. www.colorku.com

Congratulations to the winners, and a big thank you to all of our Mensan judges!

KICK IRRATIONAL by Brian Lord



WORD CHECK

See if you can define these philosophical terms. Answers are below.

- 1. animadvert (an-im-mad-VERT)
- 2. perspicacious (PER-spe-KAY-shuhs)
- 3. peruse (pe-ROOZ)
- 3. insuperable (in-SOO-per-a-bel)
- 4. nonpareil (NON-pe-REL)
- 5. obloquy (AHB-luh-kwee)
- 6. panegyric (PAN-e-JIR-ik)
- 7. supercilious (soo-puhr-SIL-ee-uhs)
- 8. sententious (sen-TEN-shuhs)
- 9. supplicant (SUHP-li-kent)
- 10. obstreperous (ob-STREP-er-es)

- 1. animadvert to make harsh critical remarks.
- 2. perspicacious having insight, keen perception and understanding; astute; mentally acute.
- 3. peruse to read carefully, attentively.
- 3. insuperable insurmountable; unbeatable.
- 4. nonpareil unequalled, unrivaled.
- 5. obloquy 1. abusive criticism 2. disgrace.
- 6. panegyric an oration of formal praise.
- 7. supercilious () haughty, disdainfully arrogant, overly proud.
- 8. sententious 1. pithy. 2. full of pithy aphorisms and maxims.
- 3. given to pompous moralizing.
- 9. supplicant one who petitions or pleads for help.
- 10. obstreperous boisterous, noisy, unruly.

ANSWERS:

KICK IRRATIONAL by Brian Lord



NOTED & QUOTED

No enemy is so terrible as a man of genius.

- Benjamin Disraeli, (1804 - 1881)

Architecture should be dedicated to keeping the outside out and the inside in.

- Leonard Baskin, (1922 - 2000), U.S. sculptor, book illustrator, printmaker, graphic artist, writer and teacher

Good architecture lets nature in.

- I.M. (Ieoh Ming) Pei, (1917 -), Chinese-American architect

Times don't change. Men do.

- Sam Levenson, (1911 - 1980), U.S. humorist

I have offended God and mankind because my work didn't reach the quality it should have.

- Leonardo Da Vinci, (1452 - 1519)

Each man is capable of doing one thing well. If he attempts several, he will fail to achieve distinction in any. - Plato, (428 - 347 B.C.E.)

No one really listens to anyone else, and if you try it for a while you'll see why.

- Mignon McLaughlin, (1915 - 1983)

One must change one's tactics every ten years if one wishes to maintain one's superiority.

- Napoleon Bonaparte, (1769 - 1821)

True eloquence consists of saying all that should be said, and that only.

- Francois de La Rochefoucauld, (1613 - 1680), French epigrammatist

Every man's memory is his private literature.

- Aldous Huxley, (1894 - 1963), English novelist

I would never use a long word where a short one would answer the purpose. I know there are professors in this country who "ligate" arteries.

Other surgeons only tie them, and it stops the bleeding as well. - Oliver Wendell Holmes, Sr., (1809 - 1894), U.S. physician, writer

They invented the All-Star game for Willie Mays.

- Ted Williams, (1918 - 2002), major league baseball Hall of Fame player, manager

How can you think and hit at the same time?

- Yogi Berra, (1925 -), major league baseball Hall of Fame player, manager

It does not matter how frequently something succeeds if failure is too costly to bear.

- Nassim Taleb, (1960 -), *Foiled by Randomness*

Statesmen think they make history; but history makes itself and drags the statesmen along.

- Will Rogers, (1879 - 1935)

The world is weary of the past, oh, might it die or rest at last.

- Percy Shelley, (1792 - 1822), English Romantic poet.

Life is like a coin. You can spend it any way you wish, but you only spend it once.

- Lillian Dickson, (1901 - 1983), U.S. missionary, author

We are so fond of being out among nature, because it has no opinions about us.

- Friedrich Wilhelm Nietzsche, (1844 - 1900)

Without discipline, there's no life at all.

- Katharine Hepburn, (1907 - 2003)

Don't tell your problems to people: eighty percent don't care; and the other twenty percent are glad you - Lou Holtz, (1937 -), retired college football coach, commentator

If you can talk brilliantly about a problem, it can create the consoling illusion that it has been mastered. - Stanley Kubrick, (1928 -), U.S. film director

To have and not to give is often worse than to steal. - Marie Von Ebner-Eschenbach, (1830 - 1916), Austrian novelist

What's writing? A way of escape, like traveling to a war, or to see the Mau Mau. Escaping what? Boredom. Death.

- Graham Greene, (1904 - 91), English novelist

The reading of all good books is indeed like a conversation with the noblest men of past centuries who were the authors of them, nay a carefully studied conversation, in which they reveal to us none but the best of their thoughts.

- Rene Descartes, (1596 - 1650)

Patience is also a form of action.

-Auguste Rodin, (1840 - 1917), sculptor

NOTED & QUOTED

Action can give us the feeling of being useful, but only words can give us a sense of weight and purpose. - Eric Hoffer, (1902 - 1983), *The Passionate State of Mind*, 1955

No snowflake ever falls in the wrong place.
-Zen saying

To do great work a man must be very idle as well as very industrious.
-Samuel Butler, (1612 - 1680), *English poet*

A city is a large community where people are lonesome together.
- Herbert Prochnow, (1897 - 1998)

Empty drums make the most noise.
- Guyanese saying

You can't teach people to be lazy - either they have it, or they don't.
- Dagwood Bumstead

Whatever games are played with us, we must play no games with ourselves.
- Ralph Waldo Emerson, (1803 - 1882)

ADVERTISEMENTS

Advertising Rates Short classified ads free to Mensa members and subscribers, \$2.00 per month and \$20.00 per year for others Send copy to the editor Display ads: Full page, \$50; half page, \$30; quarter page or business card, \$15 Discounts: 10% for three issues, 20% for six issues, 30% for 12 issues All ads must be paid in advance, checks payable to Southern Connecticut Mensa.

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Change of Address

Please allow four weeks for the change in MENSА Bulletin (the National Magazine) delivery, and eight weeks for the Chronicle Remember to give your membership number to facilitate this process (This number appears on your membership card and labels affixed to the Chronicle and MENSА Bulletin.)

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By Bob Liftig

Here are the secrets about the 1960's no one ever told you. This is what happened when the "perfect" Baby Boom generation and the "best country in the world" lost all self control and began to hate each other. Sex! Drugs! Rock and Roll! Hippies and American heroes! What was it like to be an "average" guy or girl caught in the middle of this free for all? You'll laugh the bells off your vintage bell bottoms! Then ask Mom or Dad (or grandpa) what they were doing. Available now from AuthorHouse www.authorhouse.com 888.280.7715

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The Illustrator

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