
Southern Connecticut Mensa Chronicle

REMINDER!

Mensa yearly memberships expired in APRIL. You should have received your Mensa Membership Renewal Notices in early January 2002. However, you may renew online at www.us.mensa.org or by calling (817) 607-0060, ext. 199, and using your MasterCard or Visa.

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SCHEDULE OF CHAPTER EVENTS FOR MAY

Wednesday, May 8, 7:00. **Southern Connecticut and Connecticut/Western Massachusetts Joint Dinner.** This regular dinner is now being held the 2nd Wednesday of each month at the Old Sorrento Restaurant, Newtown Road, DANBURY, CT. Interested Mensans should contact Ward Mazzucco at (203) 744-1929, ext. 25, wjm@danburylaw.com, or Rev. Bill Loring at (203) 794-1389, frbill@mags.net.

Saturday, May 18, 7:00. **Monthly dinner, Three Door Restaurant, 1775 Madison Ave., BRIDGEPORT.** Our speaker will be Nick Pasquariello, who will talk to us about the art of cinematic sound tracks. Nick is the author of *Sounds of Movies, Interviews with the Creators of Feature Sound Tracks*, a highly praised book about the film world's best sound designers and how they creatively mix sounds. He has published in Mix magazine and several other industry publications, and will show us some film clips that highlight the ingenious solutions employed by several Academy Award winning sound artists. (You can read an excerpt from Nick's book at www.filmsound.org/beggs/index.htm. You can also find a link to a review of the book on this site.)

Socializing starts at 7:00, followed by dinner at approximately 8:00. (Directions are available at www.threedoor.com.directions.htm.)

Please call Lee Steuber at 203-730-1634 for information and reservations. Dinner is \$10.00 and includes everything but the cash bar. Dress is casual and guests are welcome.

Saturday, May 25, 8:00, THEATRE EVENT: *Jesus Christ Superstar* at the Performing Arts Center, Sacred Heart University, 5151 Park Ave., Fairfield, CT. Musical set in 1st century A.D. Tickets are \$20. For info or reservations, please call Jim Mizera at (203) 522-1959 or e-mail Jmizera@hotmail.com.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF CHAPTER EVENTS FOR JUNE

Wednesday, June 12, 7:00. **Southern Connecticut and Connecticut/Western Massachusetts Joint Dinner.** See above listing for details.

Saturday, June 15, 7:00. **Monthly dinner, Three Door Restaurant, 1775 Madison Ave., BRIDGEPORT.**

Admitted in CT, NY & OR

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FOUR CORNERS SIG EVENT: Come join us Saturday, June 8, in exploring four unique antiquarian bookstores tucked away in the beautiful New England countryside. We'll meet for a quick lunch in NEW MILFORD, CT, then head north to NEW PRESTON, LITCHFIELD, and WEST CORNWALL, before ending up in KENT for a relaxing dinner. Join us for the entire trip, or meet us along the way. Book prices will range from 50¢ paperbacks to rare, antique tomes in the thousands. For more information and the itinerary, contact MERRILL at 860-355-8699 or merrill@worldnet.att.net.

The Four Corners SIG is a special interest group dedicated to sponsoring events in Litchfield County, CT; Fairfield County, CT; Putnam County, NY; & Dutchess County, NY.

CONNECTICUT AND WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS MENSA CHAPTER UPCOMING EVENTS

This is not a complete listing. WE - Weekly Event, ME - Monthly Event, YE - Yearly Event

Side note – There is a Floating Jazz SIG that Janine Bujalski is developing. If you'd like to be on her email list, please let her know at JanineB_CPA@compuserve.com (that's Underscore _CPA!) - Beth Collins, CT & W. Mass Calendar Editor

MAY

2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Thursday 7:00 PM

Scrabble (WE) at Emmanuel Synagogue, 160 Mohegan Drive, West Hartford. **Ellen Leonard**, (860) 667-1966

3 Friday 5:30 - 7:00 PM

Happy Hour (ME, first Friday) at the Ramada Inn, Meriden. **Ann Polanski**, (203) 269-4565. This monthly reunion usually draws 10-20 people, Nov. 2 we had 30! We warmly welcome newcomers, and it's less than a mile from the I-91 and I-691 interchange.

DIRECTIONS: From I-91 north or south, or Route 15 north or south, take East Main St. (Meriden) exit, head east (away from Meriden Center). After the I-91 interchanges, take a right at the next light. There is a small Ramada sign at the corner. After you pass the Meriden Cinema Complex and the road curves to the left, take a right into the Ramada parking lot. Inside Silver City Grill, ask the host/hostess for the Mensa table - they know us well!

8 Wednesday 7:30 PM

"A Look at Butterfly Conservation in Connecticut". Spring Indoor Meeting of the CT Butterfly Association at the CT Agricultural Experiment Station in New Haven. David Wagner is the speaker. Admission is free, and the event is open to the public. For more information, call 860/526-1993 or email barnacle@portone.com, **Diane Adams**. I'll wear a yellow ribbon in my hair.

20 Monday 6:35 PM

Mensa Goes to a Ballgame. Meet in Section 213 (general admission) for a baseball game between the New Britain Rock Cats and the Altoona Curve (Pittsburgh Pirates farm club.) Check local listing to confirm starting time, or visit www.rockcats.com or contact **Tom Thomas**, tom.thomas@the-spa.com

24 Friday 5:00 PM

Fourth Friday Happy Hour, (ME, fourth Friday) Colonial Tymes, 2389 Dixwell Ave Hamden. Located about 1/2 mile north of Exit 60, Wilbur Cross Parkway. We have been able to sit at a nice big table and enjoy the good free food for a few months now. Come on down and join us. We also seem to be going out to dinner after, so if you plan to come and want dinner, too, let us know so we can reserve. **Gail Trowbridge** (203) 877-4472 or Gail.Trowbridge@att.com. I send out an e-mail reminder every month. Let me know if you'd like to be on the list.

26 Sunday 1:00 PM

Memorial Day Picnic in Wallingford, CT. **Bill Vincent** said he'd supply and man the grill, and we'll all bring salads/deserts. Call **Beth & Charlie** at 203-294-1994 or email Player.Piano@Juno.Com to let us know you're coming and what you'll bring.

29 Wednesday Noon

Waterbury Last Wednesday of the Month Lunch (ME) at Maggie McFly's, Rt. 63, Middlebury, **Dick Fogg**, (860) 274-2370.

(Continued)

CONNECTICUT AND WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS MENSA CHAPTER UPCOMING EVENTS**June Previews****1** **Saturday** **9 AM (rain date: Sunday June 2, 9 AM)****Connecticut Butterfly Association** PLEASANT VALLEY, Lyme, and EAST HADDAM HOTSPOTS.

Join the Connecticut Butterfly Association in a search for Dusted and Cobweb Skippers and possibly Horace's, Sleepy, and Dreamy Duskywings. Free and open to the public. Wear comfortable shoes and bring binoculars. Meet at the commuter lot in Old Lyme off I-95 exit 70 (North). For more information, call 860/526-1993 or email barnacle@portone.com, **Diane Adams**. I'll wear a yellow ribbon in my hair.

8 **Saturday** **9 AM**

Connecticut Butterfly Association ANNUAL FIELD DAY at Kellogg Environmental Center, Derby, CT. This year's theme is Swallowtails. Speakers, plant sale, activities for kids, field trips! Admission is free, and the event is open to the public. For more information, call 860/526-1993 or email barnacle@portone.com, **Diane Adams**. I'll wear a yellow ribbon in my hair.

UPCOMING INTERTEL EVENTS

Intertel is a society for the intellectually gifted. Membership is open to anyone who scores in the top 1% of the population on a standardized intelligence test. Ken Gould, director of Intertel Region II, has extended his invitation for Mensans to attend the Intertel events in the tri-state area.

May 8 **Wednesday** **6:45 PM**

Intertel invites Mensans and their friends to a dinner/social at SUNNY EAST, 21 West 39th St., NYC, NY. This restaurant features Oriental cuisine and has round tables for 8. A La Carte entrees include rice, tea and fresh fruit, with a \$10 per person minimum (15% gratuity). Convenient to public transportation and nearby on-street parking; some after 6 PM, all after 7 PM. Wheelchair accessible, credit cards accepted. Limit of 24 people. Call Ken Gould at (201) 592-6690 for information or reservations.

June 11 **Tuesday** **6:45 PM**

Dinner/social at SUNNY EAST, 21 West 39th St., NYC, NY.

(This is the last dinner/social at the restaurant for the summer; the next dinner will be Wednesday, September 11th.)

June 23 **Sunday** **3:30 PM**

Potluck dinner/social at the home of Rev. Lynnel Carter in Yonkers, NY. Call (914) 964-9217 to make reservations, get directions, and coordinate food. Limit 18 people. Call Ken Gould at (201) 592-6690 for car pool info.

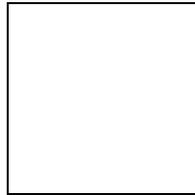
September 1 **Sunday, Labor Day weekend** **(Unconfirmed)** **3:00 PM**

Call Ken Gould at (201) 592-6690.

PUZZLES

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

1. In a country that allows polygamy, a man married three women. Each woman had only one husband, and each woman had a legitimate child. Yet none of these children were at all related to each other. How is this possible?
2. A couple has guests over for dinner. Afterward, they serve a chocolate cake with frosting. The cake is square and they have seven people to divide it among. How can they cut the cake so that each person gets a piece of equal size with frosting on top?



3. If 7 maids with 7 mops sweep 7 tons of sand in 7 months, how long does it take 10 maids with 10 mops to sweep 10 tons of sand?

PRACTICAL INTELLIGENCE

Is the intelligence measured on IQ tests the kind of intelligence we use in everyday life? No, according to Yale Professor of Psychology Robert Sternberg, it really bears little resemblance to the intelligence we apply outside of school. Sternberg, author of several influential books on intelligence, says that what schools teach and test is not the only type of intelligence or even the most important intelligence for the real world. He proposes that we pay more attention to a different type of intelligence - practical intelligence, which is just as important as the intelligence used on IQ tests, if not more so. Schools and standardized tests neglect this type of intelligence even though it is both teachable and testable, and vital to success.

Practical intelligence is one of three types of intelligences that make up what Sternberg calls the triarchic mind. One type of intelligence, analytical intelligence, is the type emphasized in classrooms and on tests. The second type, creative intelligence, is cultivated in school arts programs but is usually not required of students. The third type is practical intelligence, described by Prof. Sternberg as common sense or applied intelligence.

Sternberg is careful to distinguish his theory from the better known theory of multiple intelligences championed by Howard Gardner. The difference is more than just the fact that Sternberg identifies three intelligences while Gardner lists eight. The distinction is qualitative as well as quantitative. As Sternberg notes, Gardner's theory seems to deal with talents not intelligences: "Intelligence is general: without it we cannot function independently. Talents, however, are specialized." He emphasizes that he has taken pains to show that the trio of intelligences he posits are statistically uncorrelated, whereas Gardner has not, preferring, in the words of psychologist George Miller, to argue more by "hunch and opinion." Gardner's work also has not, according to Sternberg, tried to identify underlying processes of his multiple intelligences. In advancing his own theory, Dr. Sternberg has tried both to understand the nature of analytical, creative, and practical intelligence, and the different types of problems they deal with.

Practical intelligence deals with the problems faced at work, at home, in the marketplace, and in the social world. How do these practical problems differ from the analytical type problems faced by students in classrooms? Although there is no hard and fast rule separating the two realms, Prof. Sternberg and others point to several general differences.

Academic problems usually are specified by others, are well defined, come with complete information, have one correct answer and one correct method of arriving at that answer. They don't resemble ordinary experience, and hold little or no intrinsic interest. In short, academic problems are somewhat artificial and less realistic than problems encountered outside of schools.

Everyone encounters problems to which solutions are neither readily available nor readily derivable from acquired knowledge. This is the nature of practical problems. They differ from schoolbook problems in several ways. Unlike academic problems, practical problems usually are unrecognized, unformulated, poorly defined, or in need of clarification. People may simply sense that "something is wrong" or get a complaint that is vague or ambiguous. Practical problem solvers will often have either almost no information given or so much information that they are overwhelmed. They then have to either find out for themselves what is necessary to solve the problem, or track down the relevant info, and then probe, test, and narrow down possible causes. All of this is quite different than solving an equation with two givens and one unknown. It involves considerable judgment rather than just formulas. Furthermore, much of the information real-life problem solvers use may only be estimates rather than data specified to two decimal places like in textbook problems. Also, this information may come from many different types of sources - experience, people on the spot, friends and neighbors, salesmen, records, manuals, the Internet,

and so on.

Practical problems differ from book problems not only in the information given, but also in the solutions. Practical problems are open-ended; unlike multiple-choice questions on the SAT, they have more than one possible solution. These different solutions each have advantages and disadvantages in quality, cost, and time required. Evaluating these solutions requires experience in a job or situation, and familiarity with an organization and its clients or customers. Although this may make the problems much less neat than abstract problems, people handling practical problems usually have a personal interest in solving them and don't have to be told to do their "homework". They may have little time to come up with a solution, but they often have plenty of motivation to find one.

Dr. Sternberg believes that practical intelligence is a separate type of intelligence not only because of the different type of problems it tackles, but also because dozens of studies have shown little correlation between it and "g", the general intelligence that IQ tests claim to measure. Consequently, he argues that general intelligence is not actually general but narrowly focused on the abilities used in schools below the graduate school level. Indeed, g has always had a strong link with academic success. Researchers have commonly found positive correlations in the .50-.70 range between IQ scores and school grades. IQ is an even better predictor of the number of years of schooling a student will complete. It has been more modestly successful at forecasting occupational success but has generally been considered the best tool for that purpose. But Sternberg says that is only because most personal factors important to achievement have been difficult to quantify. Now, he points out, we have the results of many tests of practical intelligence that predict job performance as well as or better than IQ.

Other psychologists have echoed Sternberg's criticisms that IQ tests measure mainly abstract reasoning, verbal intelligence, and the ability to analyze information while neglecting social competence, practical problem solving, creativity and artistic insight, and mechanical ingenuity. Compton's Encyclopedia is typical of the tendency to equate intelligence with analytical intelligence when it states that, "Intelligence as measured by tests may be thought of as being the capacity to acquire symbols, to retain these symbols and then to use them meaningfully." In this conventional view, intelligence is mainly language and logic.

Sternberg believes that practical intelligence and creative intelligence are unappreciated by tests and by schools. "Yet," he says, "they are totally necessary for success as an adult." People who do well at practical tasks often do not do very well at classroom problems, even problems that are quite similar. This is what a number of experiments have shown. One study looked at Brazilian children who worked as street vendors. Most of these children had very little schooling and they tended to perform poorly scholastically. Yet they were very skilled at performing the math necessary in selling on the streets. When they were given academic problems that used the same calculations they did on their jobs, however, they were much less successful in solving them. Even when the academic problems were presented as word problems that mirrored the real-life vending problems, the difference in performance persisted, although it narrowed. The context of the problem seemed to be everything for the young children, for the same striking contrast occurred in solving logical problems. They could solve classification problems on the streets that were conceptually identical to ones they failed to solve in class.

Just as many youngsters fail to transfer real-world skills to academic problems, others fail to transfer academic knowledge to real-life. For example, an experiment conducted by A. N. Perret-Clermont (*Social Interaction and Cognitive Development in Children*, 1980) found that many students who had no problem solving paper-and-pencil arithmetic questions couldn't solve the same type of problems when they were asked to count actual objects. Another study that examined

the logical reasoning skills of children gave youngsters the same problems in two different forms, a natural, practical form and a formal, academic one. The tests showed that poor street vendor children did better on the practical tests while middle-class children were better at the formal test. (Roazzi, "Effects of context on cognitive development", in J. F. Cruz and R. A. Goncalves, eds., *Psicologia e Edução*, 1987).

The gap between academic and practical problem solving success seems to apply not just to children but also to adults. People who don't do very well on IQ or formal academic tests nonetheless often use sophisticated methods in dealing with practical problems in their work or shopping. For instance, one study found that shoppers who were very savvy at comparing prices of different size quantities in the grocery store were rather inept on mental arithmetic tests. Another research project discovered that experienced but uneducated assemblers in a milk processing plant used complex and effective strategies that minimized the number of motions they had to make. They were able to spontaneously calculate in different number systems to pack many different size cases for a random variety of orders. Their performance was better than that of office workers who tried the same tasks, and was unrelated to any standard intellectual measure, including intelligence test scores, arithmetic test scores, and grades.

Even when very complicated problems with many variables are tested, the complexity of reasoning algorithms in practical problems is not strongly correlated with IQ. One particular experiment testing this hypothesis asked subjects to play the role of managers for a computer-simulated city. A wide variety of problems were presented, with a total of more than 1000 variables used in the model. Psychologists recorded the complexity of the strategies used. They found no relation whatsoever between the IQ of the participants and the sophistication of the strategies they chose. Similar results have turned up in other computer simulation studies.

These experiments support Robert Sternberg's argument that practical intelligence and analytical intelligence or IQ are not well correlated, and that they may very well be distinct intelligences. Sternberg states that practical intelligence is not only testable but also teachable. To investigate this possibility, he put together classes based on his theory. His 1993 Yale Summer Psychology Program took in students with varied intelligence patterns from high schools across the country and from abroad. He placed the students in different instructional programs emphasizing analytical, creative, or practical methods. The results? Students whose instruction matched their pattern of abilities performed significantly better than the others. Sternberg's statistical analysis showed no single general intelligence factor that could explain the results well. The triarchic intelligence hypothesis predicted course performance much better than anything else. The experiment not only added support for the theory of the triarchic mind, but also suggested that the theory could be put into practice.

How have defenders of general intelligence answered the proponents of practical intelligence such as Sternberg? They have pointed to studies in a number of areas that support the link between IQ and real-world performance. After all, the armed forces and industry have used IQ tests to good effect for several decades. For instance, one study reported in the December 1986 *Journal of Vocational Behavior*, showed that job performance and productivity correlate with IQ in both low-skill and high-skill jobs. The paper, authored by John E. Hunter, an industrial psychologist at Michigan State University, found that high-complexity job performance correlated .58 with IQ scores, and performance at low-skill jobs had a more modest but still significant .23 correlation.

Supporters of IQ also find powerful negative relationships between IQ and a wide variety of social pathologies including divorce, illegitimate births, and criminal behavior. Indeed, one study by Australian psychologist Brian O'Toole even showed a powerful inverse correlation between IQs and accident mortality rates. O'Toole found that those who had scores in the IQ range of 80-85 had

almost three times the death rate due to motor vehicle accidents of those who scored in the normal to above average 100-115 range. He wrote: "[P]eople with lower intelligence may have a poorer ability to assess risks and, consequently, may take more poor risks in their driving than do more intelligent people." For those who uphold the idea of general intelligence, real world studies like this constitute measures of practical intelligence and they demonstrate that general intelligence includes practical intelligence.

The "g-men" also suggest that studies supporting practical intelligence may only be measuring experience. One such study performed by Stephen Ceci and colleagues found that expert racetrack handicappers successfully used astonishingly complex algorithms that drew on many different types of information. Their success was unrelated to their IQ, a result touted by practical intelligence theorists. But the handicappers' success at picking horses did not carry over to another practical activity, picking stocks. Their algorithms that worked well on the racetrack did not work in the stock market, suggesting that their abilities were not transferable to other practical fields.

There is strong evidence presented in tests run by Sternberg and others that practical intelligence does not correlate with analytical intelligence as measured by IQ. But other studies seem to suggest that IQ can predict real world results. Dr. Sternberg and other practical intelligence theorists counter that the majority of the work looking at IQ and vocational success has found only modest results. Sternberg believes that IQ and analytical intelligence are mainly useful in scholastic settings, but only up to a point. Once you reach the graduate school level, he thinks that the ability to do independent research, initiative, creativity, and other factors become more important. He points to his own research that found little correlation between scores on conventional tests and the success of a group of graduate students across a range of important performance measures.

Dr. Sternberg concludes that we should not toss out IQ tests, but that we should supplement them with practical intelligence tests that present scenarios and require problem solving and decision-making. He stresses that this type of training would be useful in teaching all students, even those who are analytically or creatively minded. Practical training will help these two groups to augment and diversify their abilities, and allow the students with practical intelligence a chance to realize their talents.

If Robert Sternberg is right, then IQ is not as important as mainstream psychometricians have said. If so, we would have to recognize that intelligence is broader than we think, that it is more than just analytical intelligence. We would need a new definition of intelligence, and this would require new tests that measure practical intelligence. No doubt, the debate over what intelligence is and what IQ tests measure will continue, and we can expect Robert Sternberg to be in the forefront of that debate.

Some of the books authored by Robert Sternberg:

Intelligence, Information Processing, and Analogical Reasoning (1977)

Beyond IQ: A Triarchic Theory of Human Intelligence (1985)

Metaphors of Mind: Conceptions of the Nature of Intelligence (1990)

Successful Intelligence: How Practical and Creative Intelligence Determine Success in Life (1996)

Good Wine Cheap (and good food to go with it)

By John Grover

A few years ago it was trendy among many wine enthusiasts to declare ABC - “anything but Chardonnay”. Turned off by the dominance of that grape with the white wine drinking public, the ABC movement served to highlight the fine white wines made from other grapes. This month we will look at two of those ABC wines along with a zesty Thai stir-fry recipe.

The first wine is a 2000 Chenin Blanc from Hogue Cellars, located in the Columbia Valley of Washington State. While Chenin Blanc is famous as the grape of the great wines in the Loire Valley in France, its reputation has been sullied in the United States by its inclusion in cheap jug wines. Once again the desire for quantity ensured the loss of quality. Fortunately, several American producers, such as Hogue, have developed a delightful and fruity wine that can be served as an aperitif or with food. The Hogue Chenin Blanc has a subtle sweetness that is balanced with a crisp finish. It clearly projects the taste of apples and melons, and is a perfect match for many Asian dishes. This wine can be found for \$7 to \$8 per bottle.

Our second wine, the 2000 Sauvignon Blanc by Canyon Road Winery of California, is recommended for those who insist upon a dryer taste. Over the past several years this wine has consistently been one of the extraordinary values on the market. It has a distinctive nose of straw and tropical fruit. Its taste of grapefruit and lemon embraces the tongue with a well-balanced acidity that excites the palate. It usually sells for \$7 to \$9.

The recipe for this month is “Thai Shrimp and Fresh Vegetable Rice”. This dish combines shrimp flavored by lime, soy sauce, garlic, ginger and jalapeno peppers. While the distinctive taste of the jalapeno comes through, it doesn't overwhelm the other flavors and the wine because the recipe is so perfectly proportioned. You can find the recipe on the Better Homes and Gardens website, www.bhg.com/bhg/recipe. Just fill in “shrimp” in their recipe search engine and press the search button. The Boss made this recipe last month and it was outstanding.

I hope that you will contact me with your comments and about your favorite wines at jgrover@berk.com. I will be happy to share them with the broader Mensa group.

John Grover is a member of Mensa of Northeastern New York. He lives with his wife Sharon in the Hudson Valley in Kinderhook, New York.

If you wish to submit material, please write or e-mail Jim Mizera at PMB #181, 7365 Main St., Stratford, CT. 06614-1300, Jmizera@hotmail.com. E-mail submissions are preferred. Please include your name, address, and telephone number. Anonymous material will be rejected, although names will be withheld on request. Items will be returned if accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Currently, the deadline for postal submissions is the 15th of the month preceding publication, and the 20th of the month for e-mail submissions.

NOTED AND QUOTED

- One dedicated worker is worth a thousand slaves. - Confucius
- Culture is one thing and varnish is another. - Ralph Waldo Emerson
- Every generation laughs at the old fashions, but follows religiously the new.
-Henry David Thoreau
- If at first you don't succeed you're running about average.
- M. H. Alderson
- A computer once beat me at chess, but it was no match for me at kickboxing.
- Emo Philips
- Don't tell me how hard you work. Tell me how much you get done.
- James Ling
- We create our fate every day we live. - Henry Miller
- We talk on principle, but we act on interest. - Walter Savage Landor
- When you choose the lesser of two evils, always remember that it is still an evil.
- Max Lerner
- Education is what survives when what has been learned has been forgotten.
- B.F. Skinner
- You can no more win a war than you can win an earthquake. - Jeannette Rankin
- The eye sees only what the mind is prepared to comprehend. - Henri Bergson
- Everyone who ever walked barefoot into his child's room late at night hates Legos.
- Tony Kornheiser
- Bureaucracy defends the status quo long past the time when the quo has lost its status
- Laurence J. Peter
- Actions lie louder than words. - Carolyn Wells
- When a man's knowledge is not in order, the more of it he has the greater will be his confusion.
- Herbert Spencer, (1820-1903)
- Why pay a dollar for a bookmark? Why not use the dollar for a bookmark?
- Steven Spielberg

CHAPTER NOTES

Southern Connecticut Mensa has an e-mail server list on Topica where members can discuss topics with other Mensans on the list. To subscribe, just send a blank e-mail to: MensaSCT- subscribe@topica.com

BETHEL CINEMA FILM GROUP. The Bethel Cinema is an independent art house movie theater in the town of Bethel, CT, just outside Danbury. The Cinema will be running a Freudian Flicks psychological-film discussion group from now until May or June. Meetings are held on the second Saturday of the month at 11:00 am. (Bethel Cinema 778-2100). If you are interested in participating in a Mensa group to see films in this series or any of the films on the theater's regular schedule, please contact Nancy O'Neil at Nancyoneil@aol.com.

If you would like to organize or sponsor a Mensa event, please contact Jim Mizera at Jmizera@hotmail.com. The event can be posted in the Chronicle and announced at monthly dinners. It can also be listed in the newsletter of the Connecticut and Western Massachusetts Mensa chapter, the Media, if enough lead-time is available.

ADVERTISEMENTS

The Four Corners SIG Presents

The Litchfield Hills Book Safari

Saturday, June 8

Come join us in exploring four unique antiquarian bookstores tucked away in the beautiful New England countryside. We'll meet for a quick lunch in New Milford, CT, then head north to New Preston, Litchfield, and West Cornwall, before ending up in Kent for a relaxing dinner. Join us for the entire trip, or meet us along the way. Book prices will range from 50¢ paperbacks to rare, antique tomes in the thousands.

For more information and a copy of the itinerary, contact Merrill at 860-355-8699 or merrill@worldnet.att.net.

The Four Corners SIG is a multi-chapter special interest group dedicated to sponsoring events in Litchfield County, CT; Fairfield County, CT; Putnam County, NY; and Dutchess County, NY.

Wanted: Child who loves science as much as Willy! Our son Willy, 7 years old, loves science. There's lots of it he understands on a college level. We're looking for other kids with similar interests/abilities to hang out and pretend they're subatomic particles or invent new viruses (not the computer kind!). You can reach Willy's parents (Lisa and Steve) at: lsawin@optonline.net or (203) 335-4389

In Don't Forget to Write!, The 6' Ferret Writers' Group shares more than ten years' experience on how to start a local writers' group, add members, and avoid common problems. Also included are writing exercises, events, recommended reading, and stories from a few exercises. Order through your favorite on-line or local bookstore. ISBN 0-7388-3698-2

Visit our website, too! http://pages.cthome.net/6ft_ferrets/

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MENSA REGIONAL GATHERINGS

Are you planning ahead for some getaways? For May try going to Cap Cod from May 10-12 for Boston Mensa's Carpe Cod. Room rates are only \$59.95 and registration is \$40. Send you hotel money in quickly to The Corsair and Cross Rip Oceanfront Motels, 41 Chase Avenue, Dennisport, MA 02639. Contact Registrar Susan Mozzicato at 19 Chesley Road, Newton Centre, MA 02459 and let her know you're going to attend.

Central New York Mensa is joining with Mensa of the Southern Tier to hold a joint RG from August 16-18 in Ithaca New York. If you get your registration in prior to May 16 the cost is only \$35 and that includes 3 meals! Send money to the registrar, Marie Ten Brink, at 206 Church Street, North Syracuse, NY 13212. The hotel is the Best Western at 1020 Ellis Hollow Road, East Hill Plaza, Ithaca, NY 14850. Room rates are \$89 per night.

Son of Asilomar

August 30-September 2 *The Cliffs* – Shell Beach, Calif.

Dolphins, private balconies, the beach – relax, no hills to climb! Heir to the 36-year Asilomar tradition; Mensa at its best. Casino, Ball, pool party, The Hunt, Sci-Fi, exciting new events, 5-star buffet meals. Theme: Myths & Legends. Hotel/MP/Reg. Complete: 3 days \$389-\$525 to 8/1. Singles, Upgrades, DT available. At the famous -The Cliffs at Shell Beach. *S H DT H/AS \$0*. Registration handled exclusively by RG registrar, Bev Miller, 20365 Valerio St., Winnetka, CA 91306; 818-883-9708; beversaurus@cs.com. CC or checks to: Mensa Son of Asilomar. RG Web site: www.mensaasilomar.org.

2001 MENSA SELECT SEAL WINNING GAMES**Brainstrain** by Chuckle Games Company

A unique game where players make up the words! You've got 60 seconds to ask questions fast to determine who, what, or where you are. Can't guess? We'll clue you!

Price: \$29.95

Web site: www.chucklegames.com

DAO by playdao.com

The game consists of only one simple rule and four ways to win... an engaging game of strategy, yet fun for the whole family! A real challenge for players of all ages that requires an ever-changing strategy and precise balance of movement.

Price: \$39.95

Web site: www.playdao.com

Metro (Paris, 1898) by Queen/Funagain Games

Engineer the most extensive network of track in the Paris underground while attempting to cut off your opponents' tracks. Play with 2 players for a brain-busting tactical duel, 3-4 players for a balanced strategic challenge, or with 5-6 players for chaotic fun!

Price: \$29.95

Web site: www.funagain.com

Shapes Up! By Educational Insights

A game of strategy and speed! Players fit shapes together, like a tangram, to cover their boards and form multicolored squares. The player whose board is filled first and yells "Shapes Up!" is the winner.

Price: \$19.95

Web site: www.educationalinsights.com

thepolicegame by thepollgame, LLC

Choose from 750 "Yes" or "No" questions or create one. The object is to guess how many players will answer "Yes" to the question. Surprising answers and revealing stories will entertain for hours.

Price: \$34.95

Web site: www.thepollgame.com

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