
Southern Connecticut Mensa Chronicle

NOTICE! Southern CT Mensa will be holding elections in October for officers to serve on the Board of Directors. There are also appointed positions on the board that are open for volunteers. Several current officers have served multiple terms and would be willing to step down or take another position. Hence, there are opportunities open to all SCM members in good standing. A description of officer duties appears on page of this issue. If you would like to be a candidate for an elected office or an appointed office, please contact .

YOUR MEMBERSHIP MAY HAVE EXPIRED !

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.

If you or someone you know would like to be a speaker at our monthly dinner, please contact Lee Steuber at lee@steuber.com. The dinner is held the third Saturday of the month at the Three Door Restaurant in Bridgeport.

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SCHEDULE OF CHAPTER EVENTS FOR JULY

Wednesday, July 10, 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, July 13. 4-CORNERS SIG EVENT: Cold Spring Tour and the Boscobel Restoration. Join us for an afternoon wandering the beautiful town of Cold Spring in Putnam County, NY. (See description on page 3). For more information and a complete itinerary of the trip, call Merrill at 860-355-8699 or email 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.

Saturday, July 20, 7:00. Monthly dinner, Three Door Restaurant, 1775 Madison Ave., BRIDGEPORT. Our speaker for July will be chapter member Rick D'Amico talking on "The Evolution of Lacrosse", America's oldest sport. Rick will discuss lacrosse's early history when it was played by Native Americans, its spread to European settlers, and its international popularity today. 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.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF CHAPTER EVENTS FOR AUGUST

Saturday, August 3, 7:30, THEATRE EVENT: "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat", Musicals at Richter, www.MusicalsatRichter.org, Richter Park, 100 Aunt Hack Rd., Danbury, CT. This is an outdoor show so arrive early and bring your chair or blanket. \$15 adult, \$12 srs., \$10 student. For info or reservations, please call Jim Mizera at (203) 522-1959 or e-mail Jmizera@hotmail.com.

Wednesday, August 14, 7:00. Southern Connecticut and Connecticut/Western Massachusetts Joint Dinner. See above listing for details.

Saturday, August 17, 7:00. Monthly dinner, Three Door Restaurant, 1775 Madison Ave., BRIDGEPORT.

Saturday, August 31, 8:00. THEATRE EVENT: William Shakespeare's Macbeth, performed by the Elm Shakespeare Company outdoors in Edgerton Park, Whitney Ave, New Haven, near Hamden town line. This is an outdoor show so arrive early and bring your chair or blanket. Free, donation suggested. For info or reservations, please call Jim Mizera at (203) 522-1959 or e-mail Jmizera@hotmail.com.

Admitted in CT, NY & OR

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FOUR CORNERS SIG EVENT: Saturday, August 10th Winery Tour & Lunch, and Arboretum Visit. This month we visit Dutchess County, NY for tour of the beautiful Cascade Mountain Winery in Amenia, NY. After a tour and tasting, we'll lunch at the winery's gourmet restaurant, before heading north to visit the Institute for Ecosystem Studies at the Mary Flagler Cary Arboretum in Millbrook, NY. Here you can choose to wander the nature trails or view the hundreds of acres of gardens. There is also a fern glen, greenhouse, ecology shop, and even a "Deer Browse Demonstration Garden" for a scientific study of what deer won't eat. Afterwards, we'll join up with MidHudson's Pizza SIG for dinner. For more information and a complete itinerary of the trip, call Merrill at 860-355-8699 or email merrill@worldnet.att.net.

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

4, 11, 18, 25 Thursday 7:00 PM Independence Day

Scrabble (WE) at Emmanuel Synagogue, 160 Mohegan Drive, West Hartford. **Ellen Leonard**, (860) 667-1966 (Please call first to make sure this is happening today).

5 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!

19 Friday 6:00 – 8:00 PM

"Happy Meal Diner Food" Third Friday of the month, at Olympia Diner, Rte 5, Newington, just north of the Berlin town line and North East Utilities. Meet at 6 PM or thereabouts. Diner Dinner 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. If you weren't at the May event, PLEASE call **Beth Collins** at 203-294-1994 to make sure it's here in July.

26 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.

27 Saturday 10:00 AM

Butterfly Walk - Join the Connecticut Butterfly Association as we search for butterflies at the John Flaherty Field Trial Area in East Windsor. We hope to see 25 different species, including Horace's Duskywing. Wear your walking shoes/boots and bring binoculars!

Directions: From I-91 take exit 44, go south on Rte. 5 for 1.1 miles, make left on Tromley Rd. Go 0.7 miles to entrance on left. For more information, contact Diane Adams (860) 526-1993 or barnacle@portone.com.

31 Wednesday Noon

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

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.

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

Call Ken Gould at (201) 592-6690.

The Four Corners SIG Presents

A Walking Tour of Cold Spring, NY and the Boscobel Restoration



Saturday, July 13th

Join us for an afternoon wandering the beautiful town of Cold Spring in Putnam County, NY. Right on the Hudson River, this beautiful little town is brimming with antique stores, art galleries, and many unique shops filled with fascinating stuff. Afterwards, we'll take a quick drive south to the Boscobel Restoration, a museum showing a collection of decorative arts of the Federal period, as well as a spectacular formal garden. This day only, residents of Putnam County will be allowed in free of charge (the rest of us pay \$8).

For more information and a complete itinerary of the trip, call Merrill at 860-355-8699 or email merrill@worldnet.att.net.



The Four Corners SIG Presents

Winery Tour & Lunch, and Arboretum Visit

Saturday, August 10th

This month we visit Dutchess County, NY for tour of the beautiful Cascade Mountain Winery in Amenia, NY. After a tour and tasting, we'll lunch at the winery's gourmet restaurant, before heading north to visit the Institute for Ecosystem Studies at the Mary Flagler Cary Arboretum in Millbrook, NY. Here you can choose to wander the nature trails or view the hundreds of acres of gardens. There is also a fern glen, greenhouse, ecology shop, and even a "Deer Browse Demonstration Garden" for a scientific study of what deer won't eat. Afterwards, we'll join up with MidHudson's Pizza SIG for dinner.

For more information and a complete itinerary of the trip, call Merrill at 860-355-8699 or email merrill@worldnet.att.net.

THE JUNE DINNER – “Love, Guilt, and the Telephone”

How do people react when they talk to a computerized intelligent phone system about health problems? The answers were quite surprising, as Dr. Bonnie Kaplan, Lecturer at the Yale Center for Medical Informatics, revealed at the June monthly dinner. Along the way, the audience learned about the unexpected relationships people formed with the machine and the range of attitudes humans take towards these “smart systems”.

The system Dr. Kaplan reported on, the Telephone-Linked Care (TLC) system, was a project developed by Boston University’s Medical Informatics Unit that provided a computer-scripted interactive-voice response (IVR) unit that customers could call. Bonnie described the varied reactions she and a colleague heard in extensive interviews with a sample of the nearly 300 consumers calling the TLC line. Many callers thought of the TLC voice positively, regarding it as a “fun” or friendly mentor who made them more aware of their health. Some people, however, complained about the voice, feeling that it treated them like a child, made them feel guilty, or talked down to them. Others criticized it as being boring and repetitious, an inflexible disembodied voice that couldn’t explain things to them.

Whether they liked or disliked the voice, most respondents projected identities onto it and expressed feelings toward it. Dr. Kaplan explained the three types of relationships people formed with the TLC: 1) Guilty; 2) Loving; 3) Ambiguous or Ambivalent. Several interviewees confessed that they felt guilty talking to the voice because they had failed to take their medicine faithfully or follow their prescribed exercise or dietary regimen. These people had to battle their temptation to lie to the machine to hide their guilt. Another group of callers felt warmth or love towards the TLC voice. To them, it was a “friend”, a “helper”, or someone who was “like family.” They missed the voice when the study ended, and a few even continued to call afterwards, wanting to hear again from their friendly adviser. Finally, a third group of users had ambivalent or ambiguous feelings toward the TLC. They saw it as both a person and a machine. This was revealed by their habit of referring to the voice alternately as “he” and “it.” This had certain advantages because they could feel as if they were talking to a psychologist, someone who would listen but neutrally and anonymously.

As Dr. Kaplan stated, she hadn’t anticipated people forming relationships with the computerized system, but it was quite clear that they had. She pointed out some of the social and ethical questions this raises. Do such technologies actually humanize or dehumanize the practice of medicine? Should they be used to persuade? Furthermore, if different people take different attitudes toward these intelligent helpers, does this mean that we should design systems for these different kinds of users, systems with different “personalities”? Do intelligent systems also need emotional intelligence?

Through discussion with the audience, Bonnie was able to give listeners a view of the possibilities and pitfalls in this field, and what future studies will be taking place. Mensans and their guests came away with a better understanding of the human factors that computerized expert systems must always take into account.

Dr. Kaplan is President of Kaplan Associates. She is also a member of Yale University's Interdisciplinary Bioethics Project, a Senior Scientist at Boston University's Medical Information Systems Unit, and a Fellow of the American College of Medical Informatics. She was awarded the American Medical Informatics Association's Award for her outstanding contributions to the field.

SCM BOARD of DIRECTORS - OFFICES**ELECTED**

President
VP
Secretary
Treasurer
General Representative/ Member-at-Large

APPOINTED

Editor
Activities Coordinator
Gifted Children Coordinator
Web Master
Ombudsman
Membership Officer
Proctor
Publisher
Scholarship Officer

Officers attend monthly board meetings where they plan upcoming chapter events. Meetings are usually held at the Three Door Restaurant in Bridgeport an hour before the monthly dinner, and are open to all members in good standing.

OFFICER'S DUTIES

(This material is drawn from ARTICLE IV of the BYLAWS, and supplemented with a description of typical monthly activities.)

A. The duties of the President are:

1. To administer the business of SC Mensa in accord with the SC Mensa bylaws and the actions of the board.
2. To preside at meetings of the Board and Business Meetings of the Membership.
3. To appoint appointive officers subject to the approval of the Board, and to delegate appropriate duties to them.
EXCEPTION: Officers working under another officer shall be appointed by that officer, such as members of the newsletter staff under the Editor.
4. To supply to any SCM member, for non-commercial use, legible copies of the most recent SCM membership list, at cost, within 10 days of receipt of a written request.
5. To apply to AML for discretionary funds to facilitate the goals and efforts of the group.
6. To inform promptly, in writing, the national office of AML of any changes in elected or appointed officers as appropriate.

The President typically spends several hours each month on chapter business. This includes obtaining speakers for the monthly dinner as well as scheduling and preparing them, dealing with notices and surveys sent by the national office (American Mensa Limited - AML), handling requests from members, and other projects.

B. The duties of the Vice-President are:

1. To preside in the absence of the President, and to succeed to that office if that office becomes vacant.
2. To assist the President as that officer may request.
3. To participate in the deliberations and actions of the board.

C. The duties of the Secretary are

1. To prepare and furnish copies of the minutes of Board and General Business Meetings to all Board members and to any member of SC Mensa who requests them. Original minutes shall be in the form of a handbound book containing all voted actions, the

- date they take effect and the names of those officers supporting and opposing the action.
2. To report all official actions of the Board along with a summary of meeting minutes to the membership through the newsletter.
 3. To respond or correspond with other groups or individuals as requested by the Board or President.
 4. To maintain and update the group's bylaws including revisions as required by AML actions and to make these documents available for members' review.
 5. To participate in the deliberations and actions of the Board.

D. The duties of the Treasurer are:

1. To act as custodian of SC Mensa funds.
2. To deposit these funds in such banking institutions as the Board directs, in the name of SC Mensa.
3. To be responsible for the financial records.
4. To render to the Board a financial report when requested by it and to publish a financial report, which shall contain schedules of income, expenses, and balances for all funds under control of the group including RG, scholarship and other special funds, in the SC Mensa Newsletter at least every six months.
5. To act in accordance with such financial policies and procedures as may be established by the AMC and as directed by the Board.
6. To participate in the deliberations and actions of the Board.

The Treasurer writes checks to pay Mensa expenses for the publication of the newsletter and receives funds that AML allots to local chapters.

D. The duties of the General Representative:

1. To act as requested by the Board or President.
2. To participate in the deliberations and actions of the Board.

E. The duties of the Editor are:

1. To produce or assume the responsibility for producing the SC Mensa newsletter in accord with the SC Mensa bylaws, editorial policy established by the Board, and other actions of the Board.
2. To print in full the reports of all officers except as may be otherwise decided by the Board.

The Editor typically spends at least 12 hours a month collecting and editing material for the Chronicle. The position has also been responsible for taking the postal edition of the newsletter to the printer, and then doing the stamping, labeling, and folding necessary for mailing.

The Activities Coordinator sets up special events such as theater outings for the chapter and publicizes them.

The Membership Officer receives monthly mailings from the national office updating the current membership in the chapter. This includes a list of all members, a data file of these members, a list of new and departing members, and address labels for the mailing of the chapter newsletter.

The Proctor administers entrance exams for local Mensa candidates, approximately once a month. The Web Master will be responsible for putting basic chapter information on our web site, and updating and maintaining the site.

PUZZLES

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

1. If you want to retain the heat in a cup of tea longer, which is it better to do: pour the milk in and then the hot tea, or put the tea in first and then the milk?
2. If you were given two million dollars on the condition that you leave North America and never come back, what would you do?
3. If you were a music critic, what criteria would you use to judge a recording?
4. List the similarities and differences between Batman and Spiderman.
5. Is it better to handle a problem with a rapid full-scale assault or with a gradual approach? What if this strategy fails?

ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S PUZZLE:

1. A family drives from Bridgeport to New York City. They drive there at a speed of 80 miles an hour, but on the way back they run into delays and only travel 40 miles per hour. If they returned the same way that they went there, what was their average speed of travel for the round-trip? You don't have to know the distance from Bridgeport to New York City or the time it took for them to get there or back to solve this problem.

SOLUTION: The answer is NOT 60 miles per hour. Most people simply add 80 miles per hour + 40 miles per hour to get an answer of 60 miles per hour, but this is wrong. To get the AVERAGE SPEED for the trip, you have to DIVIDE the TOTAL DISTANCE for the TRIP by the TOTAL TIME.

$$\text{SPEED} = \frac{\text{distance}}{\text{time}} \quad \text{OR} \quad s = \frac{d}{t}$$

Now we DON'T KNOW the actual distance, although we could look it up. We DO KNOW though that the DISTANCE GOING TO is the same as the DISTANCE COMING BACK because they took the same route. We can call this distance simply d .

$$\text{So the average speed} \quad s = \frac{d + d}{t_1 + t_2} \quad \text{OR} \quad s = \frac{2d}{t_1 + t_2}$$

Now what are the values of t_1 and t_2 , the time going and the time coming? When they are going the time is $t_1 = d / 80$. When they are coming back, the time is $t_2 = d / 40$.

$$\text{So the TOTAL TIME is} \quad t_1 + t_2 = \frac{d}{80} + \frac{d}{40} = \frac{3d}{80}$$

$$\text{The AVERAGE SPEED, then, is} \quad s = \frac{2d}{t_1 + t_2} = \frac{2d}{3d/80} = 2d \frac{80}{3d} = \frac{160}{3} = 53.33 \text{ miles per hour}$$

2002 MENSA SELECT SEAL WINNING GAMES

One hundred and fifty Mensans gathered in Brooklyn Park, Minnesota, April 1, to play and rate 54 of the year's newest board games. This year's award winning games were:

Curses, by Play All Day Games - A game of "wacky rules" that players give each other. Make slip-ups and lose the game. www.worldwiseimports.com.

Muggins! by Muggins Math - Use math skills to build runs or block opponents. Then add a few bluffs and a little luck to win this game of analytical aerobics for the mind. www.mugginsmath.com

Legend of Landlock, by Gamewright - The mythical map strategy game. Place tiles next to each other and try to make a continuous path or stream around the landlock. www.gamewright.com.

Dvonn, by Rio Grande Games - In Dvonn, the players try to control as many pieces as possible by building stacks, often by jumping on their opponent's pieces. www.riograndgames.com

Smart Mouth, by Binary Arts Corp. - The quick thinking word game, played individually or in teams. Play can be modified for all vocabulary skill levels. www.puzzles.com.

If you wish to submit material, please write or email Jim Mizera at PMB #181, 7365 Main St., Stratford, CT. 06614-1300, Jmizera@hotmail.com. Email 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.

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

By John Grover

Seafood and chicken salads are staples for many households for warm weather dining, so this month we will consider a couple of wines from the pinot noir grape that will go perfectly with an elegant salmon salad that you can serve family or guests this summer.

The pinot noir grape can produce an extremely flavorful red wine that is lighter in body and generally lighter in color than other popular red grapes such as cabernet sauvignon and merlot. The new world style pinot noir wines have a very fruit forward taste of cherry, raspberry, strawberry and even flowers. As red wines, they match dishes such as roasted chicken well and are a classic pairing with grilled or baked salmon.

Our first wine, the 2000 Pinot Noir from Talus of California, offers a clear taste of cherry and a very rich warm feel across the tongue. The Talus Pinot Noir sells for between \$6 and \$8 a bottle. Our second wine, Lindeman's 1999 Pinot Noir, is from Southeastern Australia. This Lindeman's wine is noticeably more complex, with the taste of cherry, berries and floral notes. Its defining characteristic, though, is its smooth velvet texture. At \$8 to \$9 a bottle, it is one of the best wine buys to be found. Both of these wines should be served at a cool cellar temperature. If you don't have a basement to store them in, try chilling them in the refrigerator for 10-15 minutes before serving.

Our July recipe is Salmon Louis (Lew-ee), which we found in an old cookbook collection called the "Woman's Day Encyclopedia of Cookery" published in 1966. This dish makes such a beautiful presentation you will think that you are dining at the Waldorf.

Salmon Louis

1 can (1 pound) salmon; 1 head Romaine lettuce, 2 tomatoes (cut in sixths); ½ cup mayonnaise; 2 hard cooked eggs; 1 tbsp chopped black olives; ½ tsp of fresh lemon juice; dash each of salt and pepper; two tablespoons each of heavy cream, chili sauce, chopped green pepper and chopped green onion

Drain and flake salmon removing any bones. Shred lettuce and put into a shallow salad bowl or platter. Arrange salmon on lettuce. Put tomatoes around the edge. Mix the following ingredients: mayonnaise, cream, chili sauce, chopped egg whites, olives, lemon juice, peppers, onion, salt and pepper. Chill and serve over salmon on the platter. Garnish with crumbled, hard cooked egg yolks.

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 email Jim Mizera at PMB #181, 7365 Main St., Stratford, CT. 06614-1300, Jmizera@hotmail.com. Email 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

The aim of art is to represent not the outward appearance of things, but their inward significance. - Aristotle

It is better to light one small candle than to curse the darkness. - Confucius

Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail. - Ralph Waldo Emerson

As if you could kill time without injuring eternity. - Henry David Thoreau

Politics is war without violence. - Stokely Carmichael

To succeed it is necessary to accept the world as it is and rise above it. - Michael Korda

He deserves Paradise who makes his companions laugh. - The Koran

A hot dog at the ballpark is better than steak at the Ritz. - Humphrey Bogart

When you win, you're an old pro. When you lose, you're an old man.
- former N.Y. Giants quarterback Charlie Conerly

Experience isn't interesting until it begins to repeat itself - in fact, till it does that, it hardly is experience. - Irish writer Elizabeth Bowen (1899-1973), *The Death of a Heart*

Inside every older person, there's a younger person wondering what happened.
- UC Berkeley 'street' philosopher Ashleigh Brilliant

I've developed a new philosophy ... I only dread one day at a time. - A. Whitney Brown

Most history is guessing, and the rest is prejudice. - Will Durant, *Our Oriental Heritage*, 1935

Never keep up with the Joneses. Drag them down to your level. - Quentin Crisp

Don't prepare the path for the child, prepare the child for the path. - Anonymous

The traveler sees what he sees. The tourist sees what he has come to see.
- G.K. Chesterton

I believe in equality. Equality for everybody. No matter how stupid they are or how superior I am to them. - Steve Martin

The common idea that success spoils people by making them vain, egotistic, and self-complacent is erroneous; on the contrary it makes them, for the most part, humble, tolerant, and kind. Failure makes people bitter and cruel. - Somerset Maugham

If you are not confused by life, you are not paying attention. -Anonymous

MESSAGE FROM REGIONAL VICE-CHAIRMAN BETSY BURKE

The weather is gorgeous. The outdoors seems to call both the pups and me as we enjoy taking strolls at both the Vanderbilt Mansion and the Mills Mansion. The pups enjoy the magnificent views of the Hudson River and I enjoy talking to people and fantasizing about actually owning this property. So, what does this have to do with Mensa? Well, it's a stretch, but I've noticed that many groups have outdoor events planned for the summer. Why don't those of you who don't attend many/any meetings consider going to one of these? It's certainly a lot easier to talk to people when you're outside and things are more informal. Anyhow, our advice is to try it, you might like it. Also, remember, it's always proper to strike up a conversation with anyone who has a dog!

If you still haven't made plans for travel, remember that the AG is going to be at the Scottsdale Princess Resort. While there are no more removes available at the resort, there are some at a less expensive resort nearby. This should be a fun AG and when you consider what the rates are to stay at this resort normally, wow, is it a deal! Of course, it is hard to explain to non-Mensans why we always seem to be going to places that are hot in the summer. Naturally, we don't tell them it's because we're intelligent enough to be frugal! Check out the website at us.mensa.org for more details. Also, read the agenda and tell me your thoughts on various agenda items. I'd greatly appreciate your input.

If you want to stay local remember that Binghamton has an RG in August and Mid-Hudson has one in mid-September. Plans are still being developed for a Leadership Development Workshop for Regions 1 and 2 to be held in Johnson City the weekend of September 28th.

MENSA REGIONAL GATHERINGS

MENSAUTUMN 2002 "Deuces are Wild", OCTOBER 11, 12, & 13 - Hosted by Connecticut and Western Massachusetts Mensa.

Registration Fees: \$45 per person through June 30th.
\$55 per person through October 1st.
\$65 per person after October 1st.
\$40 one day rate for Saturday only.
Children - 1/2 adult rate.

WHERE: Radisson Hotel & Conference Center, 100 Berlin Rd. Cromwell, CT (East of I-91 at exit 21). 860-635-2000

Mensa Room Rate: \$84/night - 1 or 2 in room, \$94/night - 3 or 4 in room. Taxes additional.
Children 18 & under free in parents' room. Rates available through September 18th.

Name(s): _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Phone: _____
E-mail: _____
Number of registrations @ \$ _____ ea.

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Make checks payable to C&WM Mensa. Mail to: Barb Holstein
2 Old Colony Lane
Cromwell, CT 06416

Questions? Contact Bill Vincent at 860-646-3007 or wpvincent@aol.com

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. Karate, crafting, wine tasting! Registration \$45 to 7/16, \$50 after. Checks payable to Most Fun RG. . 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.

AUTUMN IN NEW YORK Sept. 20-22 Woodstock, NY. Mid-Hudson Mensa.
Let us toy with you at our summer-camp style RG with our Gizmos and Gadgets theme. Package includes 6 home-style meals and hospitality, all camp facilities, puzzles, games, toys and more. Alcohol not permitted, Not recommended for children under 12.
Reg. \$130 to 8/31; \$140 after. MP (6) \$incl. SUNY Field Campus at the Ashokan Reservoir. Checks payable to Mid-Hudson Mensa RG. S RP to 9/20 DT. Contact: Bill Zigo, 194 Roosevelt RD, Hyde Park, NY 12538-2300; 845/229-8746.

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

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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