

# SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT MENSA CHRONICLE

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL forms will be sent out in early January 2003. However you may renew online at [www.us.mensa.org](http://www.us.mensa.org) or by calling (817) 607-0060, ext. 199 using your MasterCard or Visa.

NOTICE: A membership list will be printed out in the January Chronicle. If you do not want yourname printed on this list, please contact Jim Mizera, [mizera@hotmail.com](mailto:mizera@hotmail.com), (203) 522-1959.

If you or someone you know would like to be a speaker at our monthly dinner, please contact Nancy O'Neil at [NancyOneil@aol.com](mailto:NancyOneil@aol.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 DECEMBER**

Saturday, December 7, 8:00  
**THEATRE EVENT: The Diary of Anne Frank**  
 performed by the Renaissance Theater Company's Actors Ensemble at Tabor Lutheran Church Hall, 45 Tabor Dr., Branford, CT. (www.actorsesemble.com ). Tickets are \$12 (\$10 srs/students). For info or reservations, please call Jim Mizera at (203) 522-1959 or e-mail Jmizera@hotmail.com.

Wednesday, December 11, 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, December 21, 7:00  
**Monthly dinner, Three Door Restaurant**  
 1775 Madison Ave., BRIDGEPORT.  
 While many patients may successfully take commercially manufactured medications, many experience problems because of allergies to preservatives and/or other inactive ingredients, the inability to swallow, the need for unique delivery systems, the need for individualized quantities of medication, or the need for a more palatable product. Michael Roberge, R.Ph., a compounding specialist, will speak about compounding in general and more specifically on **bio-identical hormone replacement for men and women.** Bio-identical hormones are not available in standard medical preparations. The term "bio-identical" indicates that the chemical structure of the replacement hormone is identical to that of the hormone naturally found in the human body.  
 Socializing starts at 7:00, followed by dinner at approximately 8:00. (Directions are available at www.threedoor.com.directions.htm.) Please call Nancy O'Neil at nancyoneil@aol.com or 203-791-1668 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 EVENTS FOR JANUARY**

Wednesday, January 8, 7:00  
**Southern Connecticut and Connecticut/Western Massachusetts Joint Dinner.**  
 See above listing for details.

Saturday, January 18, 7:00  
**Monthly dinner, Three Door Restaurant**  
 1775 Madison Ave., BRIDGEPORT.  
**NEW MEMBERS DINNER. This dinner will be FREE to all Mensans.**  
 If you are a new member or just haven't had the chance to attend recently, come to our January dinner and meet some of the other new and returning members. Australian Mensan Leigh St. John, a noted speaker, writer, trainer, and founder of About Achievement Pty Ltd., will be our guest. We especially invite New Mensans to come hear this dynamic presentation. Make it your New Year's Resolution to attend this dinner.

Saturday, December 7, 8:00  
**THEATRE EVENT: Agatha Christie's Ten Little Indians** at the Clockwork Repertory Theatre, 133 Main St., OAKVILLE, CT 06779. Tickets are \$14. For info or reservations, please call Jim Mizera at (203) 332-2548 or e-mail Jmizera@hotmail.com. Try to call by Mon. Jan. 19 to assure seats.

**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

*Admitted in CT, NY & OR*

**Sharon Oberst DeFala, Esq.**  
 GENERAL PRACTICE OF LAW

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**Gary Oberst**  
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 Home (203) 852-9571  
 Fax (203) 852-1574  
 sharon@oberstlaw.com

on her email list, please let her know at JanineB\_CPA@compuserve.com (that's Underscore \_CPA!) - Beth Collins, CT & W. Mass Calendar Editor

## DECEMBER

5, 12, 19, 26 Thursday 7:00 PM

### 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).

6, 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!

20 Friday 7:30 - 10:00 PM

### Annual Holiday Party

Join us for C&WM's annual Holiday Party at the Solomon Welles House in Wethersfield from 7:30 to 10:00. The Chapter will provide pizza, grinders, munchies, soda, coffee, beer and wine, so just bring yourselves and plan to munch and mingle. If you have never attended one of C&WM's parties before, feel free to call one of the officers. We'll keep an eye out for you and make sure you meet people. The Chapter's annual meeting will be held at 8 PM in the front parlor for those who wish to attend. P.S. We'll be setting up between 7 and 7:30. If you are going to be in the area at that time, we'd welcome the help.



27 Friday 5:00 PM

### Fourth Friday Happy Hour (ME)

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.

31, Tuesday 6:00 PM - 12:20 AM

### New Year's Eve Open House in Wallingford.

Beth & Charlie will open ALL their doors in effort to accommodate your New Year's Eve celebration. For Beth, we will once again toast in the next year at our traditional 7PM, that's midnight Greenwich Time. Real food will be served (provided you bring some!) around 8PM. Then, for Charlie, we'll toast the next year again at midnight. Champagne provided, please plan to donate \$2 for each toasting event that you attend. We may need to limit the number of guest, so please call ahead for reservations, RSVP to 203-294-0503 to leave a message, or 203-294-1994 to talk with Charlie, or Player.Piano@Juno.Com. See you here!

## MENSA REGIONAL GATHERINGS

February 14-16

### Region 1 RG, New Hampshire RG Granite Gathering Aught Three

Danvers, Mass. Sheraton Ferncroft Resort, 50 Ferncroft Rd., Danvers, MA 01923; 800/325-3535 or 978/777-2500. SR/DR \$85; TR \$97; QR \$112 + tax. Room rates guaranteed to 11/6 5:00 PM. Checks payable to Boston Mensa. S CD 5 & 21 H RP to 11/8 DT CP H/AS \$33 one way. Registrar Keep your brain warm this winter! Games galore, private pool party, movies, kids' room, book sale, new member welcome, generous hospitality, mind-blowing beer selection, 2-track speaker program (climate symphony, war gaffes, tarot, astronomy, etc.)!

Reg. \$45 to 11/15; \$50 to 12/31; \$55 to 2/13; \$60 walk-in. MP (2) \$38. Radisson Hotel & Conference Center, 4 Executive Park Dr., Merrimack, NH 03054; 603/424-8000.

SR/DR/TR/QR \$75 + tax. Room rates guaranteed to 1/21. Checks payable to NH Mensa RG. S CD 7,17 H RP to 1/31 DT SA (local) CP CC (V MC). Contact: Deb Stone, POB 7998, Nashua, NH 03060-7998

April 25 - 27, 2003

**GREATER NEW YORK MENSA Presents "A NEW YORK STATE OF MIND."**

FOOD, GAMES, SPEAKERS, SOCIALIZING! FREE COCKTAIL HOUR, AND PROFESSIONAL COMEDY SHOW ON FRIDAY NIGHT! For superb N.Y. hotel rates, call the Staten Island Hotel by 3/31/03 at (718) 698-5000 and mention Mensa. \$99 + tax single/double Friday, Saturday. Hotel is convenient to downtown N.Y.C., L.I., N.J. Turnpike, and Newark Airport. Directions will be sent with registration confirmation. REGISTRATION FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name on Badge \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Per Person Registration Rates:

Until 11/30/02: \$40	_____
Until 1/31/03: \$50	_____
Until 3/31/03: \$55	_____
After 3/31/03: \$60	_____
Sumptuous Saturday Buffet Dinner \$36	_____
Splendid Sunday Brunch \$17	_____
TOTAL	_____

I want to participate in:  
\_\_\_\_\_ Helping in Hospitality  
\_\_\_\_\_ Helping at Registration  
\_\_\_\_\_ Helping to Introduce Speakers  
\_\_\_\_\_ Presenting a Program

Please return this form and your check or money order payable to GNYM RG 2003 to: Karen Coopersmith-Tobin, Registrar 20 Wisteria Court Monmouth Junction, NJ 08852

QUESTIONS? Call Karen Coopersmith-Tobin at (732) 438-0067 or Brenda Giammanco at (718) 980-1686 [IlanasMom@aol.com](mailto:IlanasMom@aol.com) [paleneka@juno.com](mailto:paleneka@juno.com)



July 2 - 6, 2003

**2003 ANNUAL GATHERING . MINNESOTA MENSA and MENSA CANADA** present LIGHT UP THE NORTH. St. Paul, Minnesota. Register online at [www.ag2003.com](http://www.ag2003.com).

The AG will have a full slate of speakers and activities to keep you occupied for the entire five days, along with nonpareil hospitality. REGISTRATION: \$60 until 12/31/02, \$70.00 until 3/31/03. 1/2 price for ages 6-12, free for 5 and under. HOTEL: Radisson Hotel Riverfront, located on a bluff overlooking the Mississippi in downtown St. Paul. 1-800-333-3333 \$84.00/night (+tax), S/D/T/Q Meal Package: \$59.00 includes Friday Awards Luncheon, Saturday Night Banquet, Sunday Brunch. Special Added Attraction: Friday July 4th Riverboat Dinner Cruise on the Mississippi (\$35.00). REGISTRAR: Jane Gmur E-mail: [registrar@ag2003.com](mailto:registrar@ag2003.com) Make checks payable to: 2003 Mensa Annual Gathering Mail to: P.O. Box 2087, Minneapolis, MN 554002-0087

**NEW FROM WING AND A PRAYER PRESS**

Southern Connecticut Mensa member Jerry Brooker has recently had his new book of poems called "A Quiet Conversation," published by Wing and a Prayer Press.

Faith Vicinanza, publisher Hanover Press, 2002 "He uses everything: humor, politics, love, history ... to render a poetic adventure that is playful, erotic, and gentle."

Sandra Bishop Ebner, author of The Space Between "The poet's intimate conversations with the self with an originality of language that deserves notice."

Erik Zork Alan, author Stolen Snapshots "He paints lush, linguistic landscapes and makes me marvel at life's mysteries. He understands the sinner and the saint."

The book can be purchased (\$10) on the Internet at [www.Amazon.com](http://www.Amazon.com) Advantage (Literature and Fiction/Poetry/Gerard Brooker).

About the Author Mr. Brooker has had over 250 poems and articles published, most of them about inequities on this earth. He has lived and traveled widely and has been recognized for his humanitarian work, most recently with two honorary degrees, and was inducted into the National Teachers' Hall of Fame in 1998.

## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

I'm sure that you've noticed that the Mensa Chronicle has taken on a new, improved look. Jim Mizera continues to do his superb job of editing the content of the newsletter, and now Amy Harold has contributed her outstanding publishing skills to produce a newsletter with an enhanced, aesthetically-appealing layout. Thanks to Jim and Amy on a job well done.

Special thanks to our November Guest Speaker, Karl Decker, for an outstanding presentation on photography. He showed us all how a photograph can make "order out of chaos."

On behalf of our officers, best wishes for a happy, healthy, and safe Holiday Season. Hope to see you at our December Meeting.

Rick D'Amico

Southern CT Mensa President

## PAUSE FOR REFLECTION

Regional Vice-Chairman Betsy Burke

Thanks to all the groups in the region who participated in National Testing Day. As of 10/28/02, the national office reported that 1153 individuals were tested at 162 sites. There was extensive media coverage - 35 print articles, 2 TV reports, 20 radio spots (including CBS radio). Nine reporters actually took the test.

According to our executive director, Pam Donahoo, "Most of the individuals taking the Mensa test on National Testing Day indicate they learned about Mensa and the test sites on the Internet. Surprisingly, an appreciable number of test takers said they learned about us from Geena Davis' appearance on the David Letterman show. Also mentioned were the Far Side comic strip and the movie Me, Myself & Irene. The majority of those who indicated a date of birth on the evaluation sheet said they were born in the 70's or 80's. If this bears out on the testing sheets, it represents a significant shift to younger potential members."

I'd like to thank all the proctors and proctor coordinators who helped with this event and all testing. You are often the first point of contact for individuals who become members and as such you're a valuable resource to this organization.

MERF (Mensa Educational Research Foundation) scholarship time is upon us again. 67% of

groups in region 1 are participating compared to 100% in region 2. Well, actually I'm glad groups are participating. I know I keep hitting people over the head about volunteering but this is another way you can help your local group. About 5 people are needed to run this contest, including a chairperson and judges. The good thing about volunteering for this job is that it occurs once a year and requires just a short commitment. Yes, one week of that time can be hectic but the rest, well, you can just tell others in your group that you can't volunteer for anything else because you're helping with the MERF scholarships.

Several individuals have come forward to volunteer to become the official Webmaster of Region 1. I'll report on this next month.

## THE NOVEMBER DINNER - KARL DECKER: "ARTISTIC CREATIVITY: ORDER OUT OF CHAOS"

What is the essence of artistic creativity? For our November speaker, documentary photographer Karl Decker of Monroe, it is bringing order out of chaos. That is what Karl has been doing in pursuing his lifelong love of photography, including his recently completed project, a photo collection of the residents of a small southern Vermont town. The Mensa audience had a chance to look at the pictures Mr. Decker took during this project, and came away impressed by both the creativity and the order.

The photographer brings order to his work but what does photography give to viewers? In explaining the appeal of photographs, Karl said that he had really only one thing to say: "They are a frozen moment." There is a stillness in them that contrasts starkly with the transient sensations of life. Time is always passing and there is nothing we can do about it. But with photography, we can capture these moments.

To capture moments on film, Mr. Decker told the audience, requires concentration "sheer, intense concentration." Each time the photographer gets behind his View Finder, he makes his subject the center of the world. Such is his focus, his desire to bring order to his pictures, that he must ignore everything else. Karl gave members of the audience a chance to look through the View Finder of his camera and glimpse what a professional sees.

In the fall of 1998, Karl decided to change his

focus. He dropped his teaching career of 43 years and set out to photograph all the one thousand residents of Townshend, Vermont, a town he's known since the 1930s. Karl recounted this four-year labor of love, discussing several of the photos he shot and inviting listeners to view some of the many pictures that he brought in photographic albums. His pictures captured the life of the town "the ordinary folk and the affluent summer sojourners, the lifelong residents and those who returned after traveling the continent, the people at work and at leisure, and those tinkerers whose leisure is their work." Although shot in black and white, many of the portraits had colorful tales behind them, tales of both resolute and quirky characters that our speaker captivated listeners with.

One lesson that the photographer realizes from a project like this, Karl noted, is that it is not only the photographer who brings order to pictures but the subject as well. His Vermont subjects chose the time and place for their pictures. They were often fastidious about their pose and their surroundings, and sometimes spent an hour specifying what objects would and would not be included, creating their own sense of order. "They built their own photograph," Karl said, and each one was a personal statement.

Karl concluded by asking members of the audience about their own creative efforts. Were they too seeking to bring order out of chaos? For some Mensans who talked about their creative projects, this indeed was their purpose. Others spoke simply of gaining satisfaction from their work, while some found insights and illumination. Regardless of whether we seek order or some other goal, however, Karl suggested that we each need to make time for creativity. The audience left thanking our speaker for giving them an inspiring example to follow.

Karl Decker's most recent published work appears in the Autumn 2002 issue of Vermont Life. His Townshend, Vermont project will appear next year in Vermont Life and will be exhibited shortly thereafter at the Westport Public Library. You can learn more on his website at [www.karldecker.com](http://www.karldecker.com).

NEXT MONTH'S SPEAKER: Michael Roberge, compounding pharmacist, will speak on Natural Hormone Replacement for Women and Men. Socializing starts at 7:00, followed by dinner at approximately 8:00. (Directions are available at [www.threedoor.com.directions.htm](http://www.threedoor.com.directions.htm).)

## A HOLIDAY SPECIAL - GOOD WINE CHEAP (AND GOOD FOOD TO GO WITH IT) By John Grover

This month's column will focus on wine and food for a Holiday celebration. This of course means sparkling wine and a main course so delightful that your friends and family will be talking about it for months.

The wines are French sparkling wines that are not from the Champagne region of France. The two main differences between these wines and Champagne are that 1) they cannot be called "Champagne" by French law; and 2) they provide the same quality for about 1/3 to 1/2 the price. The first sparkler is Brut Dargent, Blanc de Blanc 1999, which is made from the Chardonnay grape. This is a dry and elegant wine with a brief but bright finish. It has a nose and taste reminiscent of the fine Chardonnay from the Chablis region of France. You can usually buy it for between \$8 and \$11 bottle.

The second sparkling wine is Veuve de Vernay, Brut Blanc de Blanc (non-vintage). Several of the leading wine magazines have recognized this as a "Best Buy." The taste is dry and fruity with a hint of caramel and apricot, and it has a smooth and balanced finish. I have found it commonly available for \$7 to \$8 a bottle. Mini Beef Wellingtons with Gorgonzola Recipe from Gourmet Magazine via Food TV 8 (1 1/2-inch-thick, 6 ounce) center-cut filets mignons 2 tablespoons vegetable oil 8 large mushrooms (about 1/2 pound total) 2 tablespoons unsalted butter 2 tablespoons finely chopped shallot 2 tablespoons minced garlic Salt and freshly ground black pepper 2 large eggs 2 puff pastry sheets (from a 17 1/4-ounce package frozen puff pastry), thawed 1/2 cup Gorgonzola (about 5 ounces)

Pat filets mignons dry and season with salt and pepper. Sear on both sides in sauté pan with heated oil. Chill filets, covered, until cold, about 1 hour. Thinly slice mushrooms and in a heavy skillet cook in butter with shallot, garlic, and salt and pepper, to taste, over moderate heat,

*cont. on next page*

**GOOD WINE CHEAP** CONT.

stirring, until mushrooms are lightly browned. Transfer mushroom mixture to a bowl to cool completely. In a small bowl lightly beat eggs to make an egg wash. On a lightly floured surface roll out puff pastry sheets into 2 (14-inch) squares. Trim edges to form 2 (13-inch) squares and cut each square into 4 (6 1/2-inch) squares. Put 1 tablespoon Gorgonzola in center of 1 square and top with 1/8 of the mushroom mixture. Top mushroom mixture with a filet mignon, pressing it down gently, and wrap 2 opposite corners of puff pastry over filet, overlapping them. Seal seam with egg wash. Wrap remaining 2 corners of pastry over filet and seal in same manner. Seal any gaps with egg wash and press pastry around filet to enclose completely. Arrange beef Wellington, seam side down, in a non-stick-baking pan. Make 7 more beef Wellingtons in same manner. Chill remaining egg wash for brushing on pastry just before baking. Chill beef Wellingtons, loosely covered, at least 1 hour and up to 1 day. Preheat oven to 425 degrees F. Brush top and sides of each beef Wellington with some remaining egg wash and bake 20 to 30 minutes, or until pastry is golden and the meat temperature is 117 degrees F. Sauce: 2 cup veal or beef demi-glace; 4 tablespoons Madeira Make sauce while beef Wellingtons are baking. In a saucepan, boil demi-glace and Madeira 1 minute and keep sauce warm. Serve beef Wellingtons with sauce. Yield: 8 servings. I would serve a hearty cabernet sauvignon such as Black Opal 2000 from Australia during this course. I hope that you will contact me with your comments, suggestions and favorite wines at [jgrover@berk.com](mailto: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.*

**PUZZLES & QUESTIONS**

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

1. What were the five best and the five worst financial decisions you made last year?
2. Which is the most neglected article of the United States Constitution?
3. What are the most important mental skills? Do not use vague phrases like "critical thinking" without clarifying them.
4. If a club has four officers, how many committees can they form from that group to work on a project?
5. If a rubber ball is dropped from a height of 5 feet and it bounces back to 90% of its previous height on each bounce, how many total feet will it drop on all of its falls before it stops bouncing?

**ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S PUZZLES:**

3. Who proved the Pythagorean Theorem?

A. It is not clear who first proved the Pythagorean Theorem, which states that the square on the hypotenuse of a right triangle has an area equal to the combined areas of the squares on the other two sides, the legs. Some believe that Pythagoras himself first proved the theorem in the 6th century BC. But Pythagoras refused to allow his teachings to be recorded in writing. The first written proof in Greek sources appeared in Euclid's Geometry, written centuries later. But some Indian scholars claim that it was proved a century before Pythagoras by the Indian mathematician Baudhayana in his Shulva Sutra. Throughout history, there have been at least 367 different proofs of the theorem, discovered by a variety of people including Socrates and U.S. President James Garfield.

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## NOTED AND QUOTED

My sources are unreliable, but their information is fascinating.

- *Ashleigh Brilliant* - UC Berkeley 'street' philosopher

The right to be heard does not automatically include the right to be taken seriously.

- *Hubert Humphrey*, (1911-1978)

If stupidity got us into this mess, why can't it get us out? - *Will Rogers*, (1879 - 1935)

Life is a horizontal fall.

- *Jean Cocteau*, French dramatist and director (1889-1963)

Living involves tearing up one rough draft after another. - *Unknown*

Monotony is the awful reward of the careful.

- *A.G. Buckham*

A fine artist is one who makes familiar things new and new things familiar.

- *Louis Nizer*, U.S. lawyer, (1902-1994)

All autobiography is self-indulgent.

- *Daphne Du Maurier*, British novelist, (1907-1989)

Little League baseball is a very good thing because it kept the parents off the streets.

- *Yogi Berra*, (1925 - )

Bureaucracy is the art of making the possible impossible. - *Javier Pascual Salcedo*

The generation of random numbers is too important to be left to chance.

- *Robert R. Coveyou*, Oak Ridge National Laboratory

When I die, I'm leaving my body to science fiction. - *Steven Wright*, Canadian comedian, (1955 - )

Carriages without horses shall go, and accidents fill the world with woe. - *Anonymous*

Charisma means looking like everyone else.

- *Marshall McLuhan*, (1911-1980)

I regard golf as an expensive way of playing marbles. - *Gilbert K. Chesterton*, (1874-1936)

Patience is not waiting, it's how you act while you're waiting. - *Anonymous*

History is a pack of lies about events that never happened told by people who weren't there.

- *George Santayana*, Spanish born American philosopher (1863-1952)

If you believe everything you read, you better not read. - *Japanese proverb*

It's better to be prepared for an opportunity and not have one than to have an opportunity and not be prepared. - *Whitney Young*, director National Urban League, (1921-1971)

Opportunities multiply as they are seized.

- *Sun Tzu*, Chinese general, (544?-496? BC)

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## 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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://www.puzzles.com).

### 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.

**Change of Address**  
 Please allow four weeks for the change in MENSA 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 MENSA Bulletin.)

Member Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Old Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 New Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone Number: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Please send form to:  
 American Mensa, Ltd.  
 Membership Dept  
 1229 Corporate Dr. West  
 Arlington, TX 76006-6103

### 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  
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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.

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