

SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT MENSA CHRONICLE

You should have received your **MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL** form in early January. You can renew by mailing in your form, by renewing 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 Nancy O'Neil at 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 APRIL

Wednesday, April 9, 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, April 19, 7:00

Monthly dinner, Three Door Restaurant

1775 Madison Ave., BRIDGEPORT

Games Night - Come play games like Set or Boggle, or bring your own game. Socializing starts at 7:00, followed by dinner at approximately 8:00 Please contact Nancy O'Neil at nancyoneil@aol.com or 203-791-1668 for information and reservations Dinner is \$15 and includes everything but the cash bar. Dress is casual and guests are welcome.

Saturday, April 26, 8:00

THEATRE EVENT: *The Final Twist*

at the Clockwork Repertory Theatre, 133 Main St., Oakville, CT 06779. A fast-paced thriller that packs intrigue and humor into an ingenious plot. An author is hired to write a script for murder but the victim seems all too real. Tickets are \$14. For info or reservations, please call Jim Mizera at (203) 522-1959 or e-mail Jmizera@hotmail.com. Try to reserve tickets before Monday, April 21 to assure seats.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS FOR MAY

Wednesday, May 14, 7:00

Southern Connecticut and Connecticut/Western Massachusetts Joint Dinner

See above listing for details.

Saturday, May 17, 7:00

Monthly Dinner, Three Door Restaurant

1775 Madison Ave., BRIDGEPORT

See above listing for details.

Saturday, May 31, 8:10

THEATRE EVENT: *ART*

at the Westport Community Theatre, Westport, CT. Winner of the 1998 Tony Award for Best Play, ART examines how the friendship of three men is tested when one of them buys a very simple painting for a huge amount of money. A sophisticated and perceptive comedy. Tickets are \$14. For info or reservations, please call Jim Mizera at (203) 522-1959 or e-mail Jmizera@hotmail.com. Try to reserve tickets early 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 CT & W. Mass Calendar Editor Gisela Rodriguez, (860) 872-3106, email: lilith@snet.net,

APRIL

3, 10, 17, 24 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).

4, 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

Admitted in CT, NY & OR

Sharon Oberst DeFala, Esq.
GENERAL PRACTICE OF LAW

<p>Law Offices Gary Oberst A Professional Corporation 111 East Avenue Norwalk, CT 06851</p>	<p>Office (203) 866-4646 Home (203) 852-9571 Fax (203) 852-1574 sharon@oberstlaw.com</p>
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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!

6, Sunday 2:00 AM [Daylight Savings]
Spring Forward

10, Thursday 7:00

Mensa Goes to a Basketball Game

Join Tom Thomas and Lois Cappellano for a women's professional basketball game in the Springfield Civic Center. The Springfield Spirit www.springfieldspirit.com/index.asp host the Grand Rapids Blizzard. Tip-off is seven o'clock. Buy a seat in Section 30 for \$13.50, join us there. We may move to closer seats in the second half. Several former UConn stars, such as Rebecca Lobo, Swin Cash and Sue Bird play for Springfield. More info?

Tom Thomas tom.thomas@the-spa.com or 413-467-7726; Lois Cappellano 413-567-4702.



John Birznieks spoke at the March dinner about handwriting analysis

13 Sunday 1:35 PM until it's over

Mensa Goes to a Baseball Game

Meet Tom Thomas in New Britain Stadium to see the Rock Cats, Double-A farm of the Minnesota Twins, play the New Haven Ravens, a Toronto Blue Jay farm club. Buy a general admission ticket and climb toward the top of section 213, contact tom.thomas@the-spa.com for more information.

18 Friday 6:00 - 8:00 PM or so

Diner Dinner

(ME) 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 Please contact John Bentley at (860) 644-0435 or email BENTLEYJ860@aol.com, subject "diner dinner."

19 Saturday 10 AM - 1 PM

Hike: Join the Connecticut Butterfly Association on a hike to see the butterflies and wildflowers of the Traprock Ridge.

We may see Falcate Orangetip, Spring Azure, and elfins among the early wildflowers. A warning (and an apology to those who came unprepared last year) — this hike begins with a steep climb — hiking boots are strongly suggested, and small children are discouraged. Bring binoculars. For more info, please contact Diane Adams (860) 526-1993 or ButterflyPR@comcast.net. I'll be wearing a yellow sweatshirt. (This event is free and open to the public.) Directions: In North Guilford from Rt 80 take Rt 77 north approximately 4 miles to parking area on left just after Great Hill Rd. Meet at the parking lot in the pines where the trail begins at the base of Bluff Head.

25 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 Sunday 12:30 PM

Fourth Sunday Lunch (ME)

Join tri-state Mensans (from MA, VT, and NH) for a good lunch and better conversation at The Marina Restaurant in Brattleboro. Afterward we can make the scene in town if something looks interesting. RSVP to Margaret.M.Brodhead @hitchcock.org or 603-242- 3367.

DIRECTIONS: Marina Restaurant, Putney Road (U.S.5/S.R. 9), Brattleboro, VT. 802-257-7563. I- 91 to Exit 3, Routes 9/5 south to restaurant on the right. If you come in and don't see us, ask for Meg.

30 Wednesday Noon

Middlebury Lunch (ME, last Wednesday)

Good food and good conversation available! Where? At Maggie McFly's in Middlebury. When? On the last Wednesday of any month from 12 noon to about 1:30 p.m. The number of attendees is growing; so, join the fun. Become a McFlyer. Maggie, in goggles and leather helmet, flying a red biplane, soars over your head. She is either your wingman or she provides ground support as you advance into your lunch! Please call Richard Fogg at 860-274-2370 if you will attend for the first time. This will give him time to scramble for a larger table, or a longer lunch trench, as needed.

Directions: The restaurant is visible on the right from Rte. 63 just south of the Rte 63 and Rte 64 intersection. This intersection is at the end of a long ramp at Exit 17 on Rte 84 west. From this exit, turn left at the 63/64 intersection. If you use Exit 17 on Rte. 84 east (heading toward Hartford), turn left off the exit ramp and see Maggie McFly's on your left.

COMING NEXT MONTH:

May 25th Sunday

Mensa Memorial Weekend Cookout

at Beth and Charlie's house in Wallingford. BYOB and food to share, but mostly bring YOU! There will also be a brief ExComm meeting and a briefer RG Committee meeting, so you can blend chapter business with chapter pleasures ad lib. Rain date: May 26th

MENSA REGIONAL GATHERING

July 2 - 6, 2003

MINNESOTA MENSA and MENSA CANADA present LIGHT UP THE NORTH.

2003 Annual Gathering - St. Paul, Minnesota. Register online at 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: \$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 Make checks payable to: 2003 Mensa Annual Gathering Mail to: P.O. Box 2087, Minneapolis, MN 554002-0087

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 llanasMom@aol.com paleneka@juno.com

PAUSE FOR REFLECTION

Regional Vice-Chairman Betsy Burke

NEWS FLASH! MENSA MEMBERSHIP TOPS 50,000

It's difficult to write this month's column as my mind is cluttered with events outside Mensa. However, as the name of this column is Pause for Reflection, I'll ramble on in the hopes that someone will write back to me and help ease my mind.

Obviously the world situation concerns me. I find it hard to imagine our country going to war. The rhetoric in the newspapers and on CNN seems to be hindering my understanding rather than helping it. I have one relative who is a pilot on an aircraft carrier in the region. Another friend is a chaplain in an army hospital to treat the wounded. Right now she reports that she and the doctors are bored and she prays that they stay bored. I'm adding my prayers as well.

Another concern is that I am now "with child". Yes, it is true that a woman who has gone through the "change" can have a child. The child is a teenager but does that really change anything? My great niece, Krista, has moved in with me. (Note: Is it great-niece or grand-niece? She's my nephew's daughter). It's been an interesting adjustment for both of us. Krista is a junior in high school this year. Having been widowed for almost ten years, I'm used to relying on myself and making personal decisions

that affect only me. Now, suddenly, I worry about homework, television, SATs, ACTs, high school grades, and college applications. Some of my Mensa friends were tempted to have a baby shower for me with the suggested gifts being aspirin, alcohol and a padded cell. I'm not sure whom the padded cell is for.

You'll get to meet both Krista and me if you attend Greater New York's A New York State of Mind being held from April 25- 27 at the State Island Hotel. (718-698-5000). Contact Karen Coopersmith-Tobin, 20 Wisteria Court, Monmouth Junction, NJ 08852; 732-438-0067 for further information.

As it's income tax time and we're reminded to plan ahead for the coming year, you might want to mark your calendars for Mid-Hudson's Autumn in New York in September, Connecticut and Western Massachusetts Mensa Autumn in October, and Boston's Pilgrimage in November. Details on these events will follow.

NEW MEMBERS THIS MONTH:

Welcome to these new or returning Southern CT Mensa members:

Randall Paulson, Douglas Hertford, Lee Bennett, Andreas Udby, Thomas Boe-Wiegaard, Steve Hudson, and Carol Hanks.

THE READING EDGE ^ WHAT'S YOUR READING SPEED?

Do you know what your reading speed is? There is an online test that can give you a quick estimate. The Reading Edge, a Wallingford, CT company, has a test at their website www.the-reading-edge.com. The tests take only a minute and calculate your reading speed instantly. For a more comprehensive test, the company offers a free demo that you can download that will test not only your speed but also your comprehension. The software can be set for different grade levels to test children as well as adults.

The company reports that the average person reads at a speed of between 200-300 words a minute but that people who enjoy reading can read more than 400 words per minute, and that some people can even read well at more than 800 words a minute.

The Reading Edge also offers books, tapes, tele-classes, and personal lessons to help people read faster and more efficiently. For more information, visit their website at www.the-reading-edge.com or contact them at info@the-reading-edge.com

THE MARCH DINNER

JOHN BIRZNIKS - THE ART AND SCIENCE OF HANDWRITING ANALYSIS

You are what you write. That was the message of our March dinner speaker, John Birznieks, a man who has examined handwriting professionally and socially for 30 years. According to John, your penmanship is just as personal as your fingerprints, and it not only identifies you but it reveals your personality as well.

Mr. Birznieks said that handwriting analysis can tell so much about a person because your mind controls your muscles. Although your writing varies with your moods, your basic personality remains consistent and the feelings in your mind will affect your motions through the nervous system. Thus your writing pattern will reflect your mental habits. Your handwriting conveys an accurate picture of your brain in action.

Although different folks have different strokes, certain personality types produce definite handwriting characteristics. John provided a list of some features of handwriting and the personality traits they reveal:

Spacing	state of mind
Speed	energy
Slope	degree of affection
Size	concentration
Line of writing	disposition
Terminal strokes	degree of generosity
Capital letters	personal tastes
Small letters	mental development
Flourishes	superficialities
Style	sharpness of mind
Margins	sense of proportion
Pressure	emotional state

Mr. Birznieks went into detail on some of these

handwriting characteristics, many of which he invited the audience to guess at. For example, he stated that a person who writes capital letters that are three times as big as lower-case letters is egotistical and conceited, whereas a person who writes average-sized capitals is modest and refined. Someone who has small handwriting is intense, while someone who writes in large script is extroverted. If one writes in large and angular letters, he or she is enthusiastic. A writer who doesn't dot his I's doesn't pay attention to detail, while one who consistently dot his I's is punctual. The margins a person leaves reveal even more specific information - writers with right-slanting margins have trouble holding on to money, and those who leave little or no margin are stingy and unkempt. In an interesting aside, John noted that 100-150 years ago people wrote more neatly, suggesting more stable personalities.

Since there are many characteristics of handwriting, John explained that an analyst must do a quantitative profile to discover the primary characteristic and the two to four secondary characteristics a person usually has. He said that many studies had been done that demonstrated strong correlations between features of handwriting and personality traits. Although he didn't offer much detail on this research, he offered as one example the finding that 80% of felons write a 'felon's claw' on the lower loops of their y's and j's.

Our speaker mentioned several of the practical uses of handwriting analysis. To start with, any handwriting analyst worth his salt can detect forgery. But the benefits go far beyond this, for it can be used in almost any business or personal relationship. It can give people a better understanding of themselves and their friends, and help them choose a mate. It can help employers judge the honesty and other characteristics of

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HANDWRITING ANALYSIS - CONT.

job candidates, customers, or salesmen. Although courts have said that employers cannot use handwriting to judge ability, they have permitted its use to judge whether candidates can work well with the boss or co-workers. In short, companies can use it to determine whether someone will fit into the organization - which may be far more important than knowing their raw ability.

Is there any hope for people with personality weaknesses? Yes, Mr. Birznieks noted, there is - people can modify their personality by working to modify their handwriting. If a person adapts their handwriting to conform to more positive personality traits, they can actually refine their personality through positive reinforcement. So although handwriting is difficult to modify, it is not destiny.

The audience at the Three Door Restaurant had many questions for Mr. Birznieks. Some questioned the lack of evidence presented or the subjective judgments involved, but John invited people to investigate the research themselves. Since John is the U.S. Military attaché to Latvia and will be leaving shortly to become attaché to Turkey, other members of the audience asked him questions about the war with Iraq and international relations. All wished him well, and John welcomed people to contact him with further questions.

- If you have any questions for John, you can contact him at: John Birznieks, 269 Teller Rd., Monroe, CT, 06468, (203) 268-7551.

NEXT MONTH'S DINNER: Games Night - Come play games like Set or Boggle, or bring your own game. Socializing starts at 7:00, followed by dinner at approximately 8:00.

**GOOD WINE CHEAP
(AND GOOD FOOD TO GO WITH IT)**

By John Grover

This column is dedicated to the red meat crowd: those who love steak, red wine and a mushroom preparation worth fighting for. When my wife and I see a sale on beef tenderloin at the grocery store or price club, thoughts of filet mignon immediately dance in our heads. You can quickly turn a five to six pound piece of meat into 12 to 16 six oz. filets. All you need is a sharp knife and a ruler (and a calculator for the numerically challenged). We enjoy these filets grilled with a dry rub of either fresh ground pepper or Montreal steak seasoning.

The perfect wine to go with this grilled beef delight is a 2000 Merlot from Chile, It comes from the Santa Alicia vineyards located high in the Maipo River Valley (the river originates in the Andes.) When you think about Merlot, adjectives such as smooth and velvety come to mind, but this wine is rich and robust as well. It has a heady nose and a wonderful concentration of currant and ripe plum flavors. At \$7 to \$8 a bottle, this is an extraordinary deal.

Sautéed Mushrooms with Balsamic Vinegar

Clean and slice 8 oz. of fresh mushrooms. Put mushrooms into a non-stick sauté pan that has been preheated with about a tbsp. of olive oil or butter. Add salt and fresh ground pepper to taste. Cook for a few minutes until almost done; and, then add a good splash of Balsamic vinegar (perhaps 2 or 3 tbsp.) and finish cooking another minute. Serve on or as a side dish to your steaks.

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.

PUZZLES & QUESTIONS

1. Which word does not belong in this list: soccer, cricket, billiards, and hockey?
2. What is the best way to give travel directions to a place?
3. What are the best methods of teaching history?
4. If there are 25 people in a room, what is the probability that at least 3 of them were born in the same month?

ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S PUZZLES:

4. An investor's portfolio gains 50% one year and falls by one-third the next year. What is the net change in the value of his portfolio?

A: The investor gained 0% and is back where he started minus two years of lost time. If he started with \$100 and gained 50%, his portfolio goes up to \$150. If he then loses one-third of it, he loses \$50 and his portfolio's value falls back to \$100.

NOTED AND QUOTED

The ink of a scholar is more sacred than the blood of the martyr.

- Mohammed, (570 - 632), Arab religious leader

Next time I see you, remind me not to talk to you.

- Groucho Marx, (1890 - 1977)

Fortune knocks but once, but misfortune has much more patience.

- Laurence J. Peter, (1919 - 1990), author of *The Peter Principle*

A legend is an old man with a cane known for what he used to do. I'm still doing it.

- Miles Davis

Rogues are preferable to imbeciles because they sometimes take a rest.

- Alexandre Dumas, (1826 - 1895)

Two monologues do not make a dialogue.

- Jeff Daly

A failure is a man who has blundered but is not able to cash in on the experience.

- Elbert Hubbard, (1856 - 1915), author, moralist

There is nothing worse than a sharp image of a fuzzy concept.

- Ansel Adams (1902-1984)

Order and creativity are complementary.

- Lewis Mumford, U.S. sociologist (1895-1990)

Only a mediocre person is always at his best.

- W. Somerset Maugham, (1874-1965)

The real world is not user friendly.

- William Throop

A halo has to fall only a few inches to become a noose.

- *Farmer's Almanac*

If you are going through hell, keep going.

- Winston Churchill, (1874 - 1965)

The past actually happened but history is only what someone wrote down.

- A. Whitney Brown, U.S. humorist, (1952 -)

He that cannot forgive others breaks the bridge over which he must pass himself; for every man has need to be forgiven.

- Thomas Fuller, English clergymen & historian, (1608-1661)

Never fight an inanimate object.

- P. J. O'Rourke, American humorist

My hopes are not always realized, but I always hope.

- Ovid, (43 B.C. - 17 A.D.)

When Solomon said that there was a time and a place for everything he had not encountered the problem of parking an automobile.

- Bob Edwards

Reality I can handle in small doses, but as a lifestyle, I find it a bit too confining.

- Tony Prentiss

THE 100 MOST COMMON WORDS IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Although the English language has more than 500,000 words, it's estimated that just nine words make up one-quarter of the words used in conversation and that the top 43 words make up half of conversation.

Rank Word:

1 the	26 from	51 which	76 more
2 of	27 or	52 do	77 day
3 to	28 had	53 their	78 could
4 and	29 by	54 time	79 go
5 a	30 hot	55 if	80 come
6 in	31 word	56 will	81 did
7 is	32 but	57 way	82 number
8 it	33 what	58 about	83 sound
9 you	34 some	59 many	84 no
10 that	35 we	60 then	85 most
11 he	36 can	61 them	86 people
12 was	37 out	62 write	87 my
13 for	38 other	63 would	88 over
14 on	39 were	64 like	89 know
15 are	40 all	65 so	90 water
16 with	41 there	66 these	91 than
17 as	42 when	67 her	92 call
18 I	43 up	68 long	93 first
19 his	44 use	69 make	94 who
20 they	45 your	70 thing	95 may
21 be	46 how	71 see	96 down
22 at	47 said	72 him	97 side
23 one	48 an	73 two	98 been
24 have	49 each	74 has	99 now
25 this	50 she	75 look	100 find

POETRY CORNER

Upon Time and Eternity

-by John Bunyan (1628-1688)

Eternity is like unto a Ring.
Time, like to Measure, doth it self extend;
Measure commences, is a finite thing.
The Ring has no beginning, middle, end

Original text: J. B., A Book for Boys and Girls: or, Country Rhimes for Children (London: N. P., 1686): 75-76. PR 3329 D1 1686a Roberts Library. First publication date: 1686

VOCABULARY BOOSTER CD

The Vocabulary Booster CD is a great way to build vocabulary skills. Contains 200 of the most common and troublesome SAT words with definitions, contextual usage sentences, and various memory aids. Produced by Gene McKenna, a graduate of Georgetown University with a master's degree in education, who scored a perfect 800 on the verbal section of the SAT. As founder and director of Ace In-Home Tutoring, he has helped thousands of people improve their vocabulary strength. Now you, too, can get all the advantages of his expert one-on-one tutoring at just a fraction of the cost with the Vocabulary Booster CD. Just pop this CD into your car stereo or portable disc player for ten minutes a day, and watch your vocabulary grow. It's fast, easy, and effective. Guaranteed results. Full money-back guarantee if not more than completely satisfied. CD is only \$19.95, taxes, shipping and handling included. Gene McKenna's "Vocabulary Booster" CD can be purchased through his Web site, www.inhometutoring.com.

Ships that Pass in the Night

-by Paul Laurence Dunbar (1872-1906)

Out in the sky the great dark clouds are massing;
I look far out into the pregnant night,
Where I can hear the solemn booming gun
And catch the gleaming of a random light,
That tells me that the ship I seek is passing,
passing.

My tearful eyes my soul's deep hurt are glassing;
For I would hail and check that ship of ships.
I stretch my hands imploring, cry aloud,
My voice falls dead a foot from mine own lips,
And but its ghost doth reach that vessel, passing,
passing.

O Earth, O Sky, O Ocean, both surpassing,
O heart of mine, O soul that dreads the dark!
Is there no hope for me? Is there no way
That I may sight and check that speeding bark
Which out of sight and sound is passing,
passing?

Original text: The Complete Poems of Paul Laurence Dunbar (New York: Dodd, Mead, and Co., 1913), First publication date: 1895

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

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

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