

# 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](http://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](mailto:NancyOneil@aol.com)

## ARCHIVED COPIES OF THE CHRONICLE

going back a year to July 2002 are available on the Internet at <http://www.44ellen.com/mensa>. You can download the latest e-mail version of the Chronicle there, as well as previous issues. All issues are in read-only Adobe Acrobat format so there is no chance of viruses accompanying the files.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 2 Schedule of Southern Connecticut Mensa Events for June  
Schedule of Connecticut and Western Mass Mensa Events for July  
Happy Hours & Get Together's
- 4 Pause for Reflection
- 5 The June Dinner:  
Joe Lynders on Efficiency vs.  
Effectiveness
- 6 Top 10 Rules of Thumb  
for Creativity  
How Well Do You Know Your  
Economic Concepts?
- 8 Word Origins
- 9 Puzzles and Questions  
Poetry Corner
- 10 Noted and Quoted
- 11 Chapter Notes  
Member Advertisements  
Change of Address Form
- 12 List of Officers



**SCHEDULE OF CHAPTER EVENTS FOR JUNE**

Friday, July 11, 6:30

**Southern Connecticut and Connecticut/Western Massachusetts Joint Dinner**

This is the new date for this monthly dinner 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 19, 7:00

**Monthly Dinner, Pellicci's Restaurant**

96-98 Stillwater Ave., STAMFORD 323-2542  
**COME TRY OUR NEW MEETING PLACE!** Please contact Nancy O'Neil at nancyoneil@aol.com or 203-791-1668 for information and reservations. Dress is casual and guests are welcome. Directions from I-95 heading south: take exit 7 towards CT-137 N/ Atlantic St. and go .31 miles. Turn right onto Canal St. Take a quick left onto Tresser Blvd./ US-1 and proceed another .6 miles. Turn right onto Stillwater Ave.

Saturday, July 26, 8:00

**THEATRE EVENT: Shakespeare's Romeo & Juliet**

performed by the Bridgeport Free Shakespeare company. This is an outdoor show so arrive early and bring your chair. It will be at the Zoo's Peacock Pavilion and Picnic Grove (if it rains, the show will be indoors in the Carousel Museum Building.) Admission free but donations accepted. The zoo and the Peacock Café re-open at 6:00 before the show. For info or reservations, please call Jim Mizera at (203) 522-1959 or e-mail Jmizera@hotmail.com

**TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS FOR AUGUST**

Friday, August 8, 7:00

**Southern Connecticut and Connecticut/Western Massachusetts Joint Dinner**

See above listing for details.

Saturday, August 16, 7:00

**Monthly Dinner**

See above listing for details.

**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,

**JULY**

3, Friday 7:05 PM

**Mensa Goes to a Ballgame**

The New Britain Rock Cats host the Binghamton Mets. Buy a general admission ticket and meet in Section 213, about six rows from the top. Confirm the starting time with your daily newspaper, or at www.rockcats.com. Parking is \$3; general admission ticket is \$5. Need more info? tom.thomas@the-spa.com.

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 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

*Admitted in CT, NY & OR*

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

Law Offices  
**Gary Oberst**  
 A Professional Corporation  
 111 East Avenue  
 Norwalk, CT 06851

Office (203) 866-4646  
 Home (203) 852-9571  
 Fax (203) 852-1574  
 sharon@oberstlaw.com

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!

13 Sunday 10:00 AM

### **Breakfast (ME, 2nd Sunday)**

VFW Hall in Manchester. Sunday Brunch hosted by VFW Post 2046 in Manchester, CT from 8 AM to 12 noon. Enjoy omelets made to order, scrambled eggs, pancakes, english muffins, coffee, tea, juices and more, all for \$5.00 pp. Meet you at the Post (608 E. Center St.) around 10 AM. Take Rtes. 44/6 east thru town until E. Center joins E. Middle Tpke. The Post is on the right side (across from Birds and Books). Call Bill Vincent for details (860) 646-3007.

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."

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.

30 Wednesday Noon

### **Middlebury Lunch (ME, last Wednesday)**

Good food and good conversation available! Where? At Maggie McFly's in Middlebury, 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. 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. 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.

## **MENSA REGIONAL GATHERING**

October 17-19, 2003

### **MENSAUTUMN 2003**

Cromwell, CT.

Connecticut & Western Massachusetts Mensa is hosting its 26th annual Regional Gathering. Enjoy food and beverages galore, fascinating speakers, and wonderful conversation. Join us for a great weekend.

Radisson Hotel & Conference Center, 100 Berlin Road, Cromwell, CT 06416. (860) 635-2000. SR/DR \$84. TR/QR \$94 + tax. Room rates guaranteed to 9/24. Hotel is off I-91, south of Hartford, north of New Haven.

Checks payable to C & WM Mensa RG. Contact William Vincent, 70 Weaver Rd., Manchester, CT 06040. (860) 646-3007, wpvincent@aol.com



**PAUSE FOR REFLECTION**

Regional Vice-Chairman Marghretta McBean

Hello, hello! As your RVC-elect, I'm taking this opportunity to talk about the just - completed national election. I would first like to thank all of you who voted; you are to be commended for exercising your Mensa "civic duty". For those of you who think your vote doesn't matter - it does! I won the election by only 10 votes; Region 3's victor won by just eight. All of the RVC elections had relatively small deciding margins.

With roughly 5% of members voting in our region, I hope that I can somehow move the other 95% of you to be a bit more involved in Mensa's future. The new AMC (American Mensa Committee - the national board of directors) will have a lot of newbies like myself. Hopefully we will bring fresh insights and new energies to it.

On a personal note, our Region 1 has made a bit of Mensa history, I believe. I am the first Black to be elected to national office in the 43-year old history of American Mensa. Dr. Jean Becker, our president, Pam Donohoo, our Executive Director, and I all share the same birthday, May 7th.

While campaigning, I was asked several times about my position on chocolate. Honestly! While not a chocoholic (as many Mensans seem to be), I enjoy dark, bittersweet chocolate, plain or with fruit fillings. Here's a recipe from my catering company that you might enjoy.

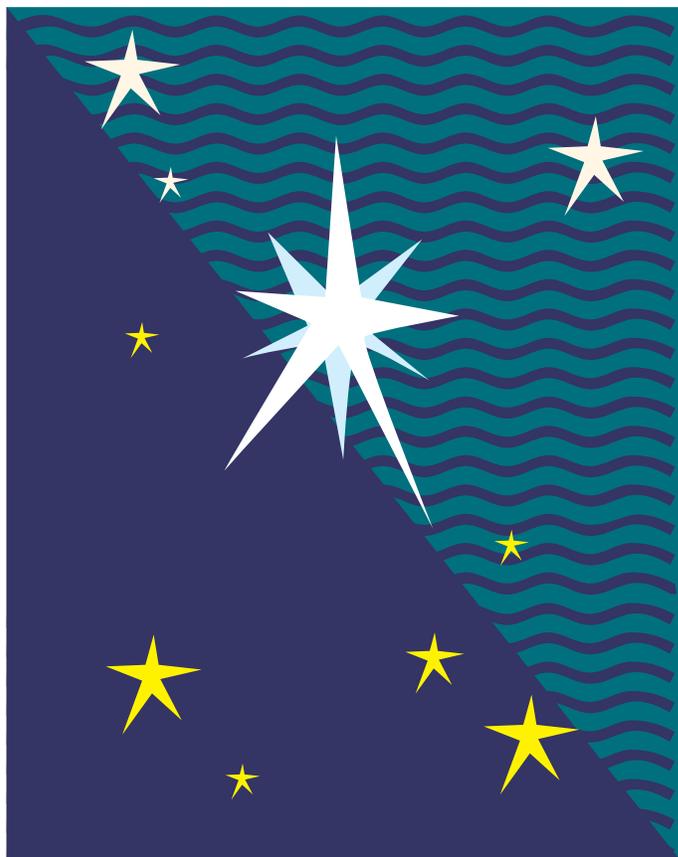
Marghretta

"The difference between ordinary and extraordinary is that little extra."

**(C3) - Chocolate Cranberry Cashew Squares****Ingredients:**

- 1 1/4 lb. Bittersweet chocolate, broken into small squares.
- 1 a cups dried cranberries
- 1 a cups roasted salted cashews

1. Melt chocolate in top of double boiler over barely simmering water, stirring occasionally until smooth.
2. While chocolate is melting, line the bottom and sides of an 8" x 8" pan with foil, leaving a 2" overhang. Lightly oil foil.
3. Remove chocolate from heat and stir in fruit and nuts. Spread evenly in pan. Refrigerate until firm, about 1 hour.
4. Lift candy out from pan using overhanging foil and place on cutting board. Peel off foil and cut candy with heavy knife into 36 1 1/2 " x 1 1/2 " pieces.



## THE JUNE DINNER

### JOE LYNDERS ON EFFICIENCY VS. EFFECTIVENESS IN PRODUCT DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT

At the June dinner, long-time Mensan Joe Lynders talked about “Efficiency vs. Effectiveness in Product Design and Development”, alternately titled “Flexible Thinking”, or “Mistake, Mistake.” Drawing on his 30+ years experience as an Industrial Design Consultant, he presented a non-technical summary of the many principles that lead to success in product design or in any work project.

From his long experience, Joe has learned many useful distinctions. One important distinction, he remarked, is that between an argument and a discussion. A discussion is a conversation about a problem which people exchange information but no one has the answer. An argument is a debate in which everyone knows the answer and everyone has a different answer. This insight has served him well socially as well as professionally.

Another distinction Joe makes is between efficiency and effectiveness: efficiency is doing things right while effectiveness is doing the right thing. One can be efficient without being effective. If you’re doing the wrong things, you won’t be effective no matter how efficiently you do them.

Working effectively brings success, which Joe defined as avoiding pain and gaining pleasure. People have no problem doing something that is good for them if it also makes them feel good, but they will resist doing something good for them if it makes them feel bad. Although everyone wants pleasure, humans are not natural risk takers, and they will actually do far more to avoid pain than to gain pleasure. Hence, new products that relieve pain will be more popular than those that give pleasure.

One of the pains that people most avoid, Joe emphasized, is making mistakes, particularly in front of other people. This causes problems because success comes from experience and experience comes from making mistakes. But the

person who fears mistakes won’t abandon familiar routines even when change requires it. Instead, he will often simply freeze up. This is the time to call in creative workers who are not afraid to take risks and make quick mistakes while exploring possibilities. These pioneers make the mistakes that others can learn from. They can then serve as guides to introduce new products or practices to co-workers. The best way to get workers comfortable with new technology, Joe pointed out, is to show them the new results in advance through a model or demonstration. When they can actually see something, they more easily adapt to innovation without trepidation.

The 80%-20% rule is one principle that Joe has applied to many areas, including that of making mistakes. For example, he thinks that it is usually 20% of workers who are willing to leave their comfort zone to try something risky. These people are not afraid to make errors right away to gain valuable experience. This is the best approach because, since we cannot avoid uncertainty and errors, it’s best to make 80% of your errors up front when they are less costly. Those who inordinately fear the pain of mistakes end up making 80% of their mistakes at the end of the project when they are the least useful and the most costly.

Joe sprinkled his presentation with several stories from his work with clients that illustrated his ideas, often in amusing fashion. He has learned a lot from these successes and failures and the audience was glad that he shared his lessons.

*Joe Lynders is with the Flexible Thinking Group in Ansonia, CT. You can reach him at [ideaidea@cs.com](mailto:ideaidea@cs.com).*

#### **NEW MEMBERS:**

**A welcome to these Mensans who have recently joined our chapter:**

Michele Anderson, John Benson,  
Joan Coprio, Ms. Dorcas Dawe,  
Charles Donais, Fred Ende,  
Leonid Malyukov, Robert Fleming,  
Puckett, Timothy Proctor,  
Anthony Varbero Jr.

## TOP 10 RULES OF THUMB FOR CREATIVITY

Charles "Chic" Thompson, President of the Creative Management Group, and the author of *What a Great Idea* and "Yes, But..." - The Top Forty Killer Phrases, has come up with a list of tips for creativity. See how his list compares with your own.

1. The best way to get great ideas is to get lots of ideas and throw the bad ones away.
2. Create ideas that are 15 minutes ahead of their time...not light years ahead.
3. Always look for a second right answer.
4. If at first you don't succeed, take a break.
5. Write down your ideas before you forget them.
6. If everyone says you are wrong, you're one step ahead. If everyone laughs at you, you're two steps ahead.
7. The answer to your problem "pre-exists." You need to ask the right question to reveal the answer.
8. When you ask a dumb question, you get a smart answer.
9. Never solve a problem from its original perspective.
10. Visualize your problem as solved before solving it.

## HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW YOUR ECONOMIC CONCEPTS?

Many economic concepts are ignored or badly understood in popular discussions. Here are some concepts that every person can benefit from knowing demand for money - Sometimes economic commentators on the Federal Reserve System talk about the demand for money. The layman may be puzzled, wondering, "Doesn't everyone want more money?" But a desire is not an economic demand; a demand is what people are willing to give up for something. Although the demand for money is used in different senses, the most common sense is the demand for cash balances. An increased demand for money means that people want to keep more cash on hand; in other words, they want to pass up purchases or investments to hold on to cash.

Like the demand for any other good, the demand for money in combination with its supply determines its price. The difference is that the price of money cannot be easily expressed; it must be described in terms of all other goods, perhaps in an index.

What affects the demand for money? The demand for money usually changes slowly but inflation or deflation will alter it more quickly, sometimes drastically. Inflation or deflation of the money supply changes the ratio between goods and services and money if the production of goods and services doesn't change as fast. This will affect the purchasing power of money - its price. If people expect the prices of goods and services to increase, they conversely expect the price of money to fall. They will then try to get rid of their money for goods and will keep less money on hand. Their demand for money falls. If they expect prices to fall, they will hold on to their money because they expect its value to increase. They will increase their cash

Chronicle is THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT MENSA #066

The subscription rate for members is \$3.50 and is included as part of yearly dues Others may subscribe at a rate of \$10.00 per year (Monthly)

The views expressed in this publication are the view of the individual submitting items for publication, and DO NOT represent the opinions of American Mensa, Ltd., the Chapter Executive Committee or the Editor unless so stated in the article Unless otherwise noted, material is not copyrighted and may be used in other publications; please let us know by sending two copies to the Editor (one copy for the Editor, one copy for the Author).

**ECONOMIC CONCEPTS CONTINUED**

balances and their demand for money.

Other factors usually change the demand for money more slowly. Among these are the frequency with which people are paid and the speed at which banks and other institutions clear balances. These changes happen only gradually or occasionally. Gresham's Law - This economic principle gets its name from Thomas Gresham (1519? - 79), a Tudor financier who served as master of the mint for Queen Elizabeth I. When the queen asked him whether England could have two currencies, Gresham advised against it, stating, "Bad money drives good money out of the marketplace." Although Gresham was not the first to note this idea, the phrase became known as Gresham's Law.

Gresham's Law should raise questions. After all, bad toasters don't usually drive good toasters out of business and bad light bulbs don't drive good light bulbs off the market. What's different about money?

In fact, Gresham's Law applies only when exchange between currencies is restricted. One can see every day that Gresham's Law is not a universal law by watching the currencies market. If the dollar becomes less attractive than the Euro, the yen, or any other currency, the dollar (the "bad" currency) does not drive the Euro or the yen (the "good" currency) out of circulation. The exchange rates between the currencies simply adjust - the value of the dollar declines and it takes more dollars to buy a Euro

or a yen. If hyperinflation caused the dollar or some other currency to lose its value in purchasing goods, then it would certainly lose its value against other currencies that were not inflated. In some cases when a currency has lost almost all of its purchasing power, it has simply dropped out of circulation because it became unwieldy - it literally took a truckload of the currency to purchase simple goods. Gresham's Law notwithstanding, better money drove bad money out of circulation.

So when does Gresham's Law apply? It applies only when people are forced to accept a currency at an overvalued price. For instance, in many countries such as the United States, there are legal tender laws that stipulate that the official currency must be accepted in transactions. Again, although this is common, there is nothing necessary about it. Many countries have used different currencies that fluctuated freely in value against each other. But if there is a fixed or restricted rate of exchange between currencies or a legal tender law mandating use of a currency, the bad money will be overvalued and the good money will be undervalued. If sellers are compelled to accept the bad money at an artificially high value, people will try to get rid of the bad money by spending it and keep the better money for foreign purchases or just for hoarding. The bad money will circulate and the good money will go underground into black markets or into vaults where people will keep it in hopes of a brighter day.

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](mailto: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.

## WORD ORIGINS

Many English words are derived from the names of people, places, or events - some of which are historic, others merely colorful. Here are a few.

**assassin** - This word traces back to an 11th century secret order of Muslims who terrorized and killed their enemies, often Christian crusaders. The killers were promised paradise if they died in action. The order offered them a taste of glory by offering them pleasures such as hashish. Hence the secret society came to be known by the Arabic word for "hashish users."

In Medieval Latin, the word was "assasnus." The word passed through the French and Italian languages into English, where it carries its current meaning of "one who murders by surprise attack, usually for political reasons."

**bunk** - This word is a short form of the word "buncombe", which means "empty talk or nonsense." During an early 19th century debate in the U.S. Congress, Representative Felix Walker gave an extremely long-winded and bombastic speech that irritated even the most jaded politicians. Rep. Walker, who hailed from Buncombe County, North Carolina, defended himself by saying he was doing it "for Buncombe." Soon "buncombe" or "bunkum" became a word for any empty speech, and "bunk" a term for any nonsensical talk.

**donnybrook** - starting in the Middle Ages, the town of Donnybrook outside Dublin, Ireland, held an annual fair that was infamous for the brawls that seemed to break out almost every year. By the late 1800s, the fighting became so disturbing that the authorities shut down the fair. Ever since, the term "donnybrook" has meant a wild public fight or brawl.

**draconian** - In ancient Greece, Draco was an Athenian lawmaker who in 621 B.C. was given the assignment of codifying the unwritten laws of the city-state to achieve a uniform system of justice. In his desire for completeness, Draco wrote down many laws that mandated extreme punishment such as the death penalty even for trivial crimes. The term "draconian" came to mean "extremely severe, harsh, or cruel."

**dunce** - Ironically this word comes from the name of one of the greatest scholars of the Middle Ages. John Duns Scotus was a famed medieval Franciscan philosopher who engaged in running philosophical debates about faith and reason with opponents such as Thomas Aquinas. Duns Scotus' legacy carried on after his death in 1308, and his ideas dominated many universities until the Renaissance. The intellectual torchbearers of the Renaissance attacked the followers of Duns Scotus as stubborn and unthinking men who weren't open to new ideas. They called them "Dunsmen," later shortened to "dunses," which ultimately came into general use as "dunce," someone who is incapable of learning.

### 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](http://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](http://www.the-reading-edge.com) or contact them at [info@the-reading-edge.com](mailto:info@the-reading-edge.com)

**PUZZLES & QUESTIONS**

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

1. What are the most mysterious mysteries you have read or seen on stage or screen?
2. Every day at noon a ship leaves New York for Lisbon, Portugal, where at the same moment, a ship leaves for New York. Each trip takes exactly 8 days (192 hours). How many ships from Lisbon will each ship from New York pass by or meet?
3. Name the 10 worst words added to the English language in the last decade or so.
4. What do you think is the best intelligence test?

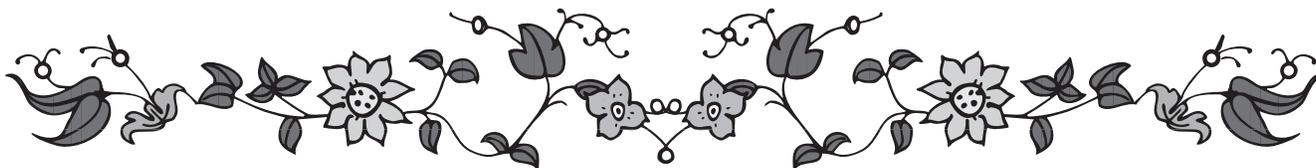
**ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S PUZZLES:****1. Shivering Sherlock! Whodunit?**

One snowy night, Sherlock Holmes was in his house sitting by the fire. All of a sudden, a snowball came crashing through his window, breaking it.

Holmes got up and looked out the window just in time to see three neighborhood kids, who were brothers, run around a corner. Their names were John Crimson, Mark Crimson, and Paul Crimson.

The next day Holmes got a note on his door that read "? Crimson. He broke your window." Which of the three brothers should Sherlock question about the incident?

A: Mark Crimson. "? Crimson" can be read as, "Question mark Crimson."

**POETRY CORNER****Drying Their Wings**

What the Carpenter Said

by Vachel Lindsay (1879-1931)

From: *The Congo and Other Poems* (1914)

THE moon's a cottage with a door.  
Some folks can see it plain.  
Look, you may catch a glint of light,  
A sparkle through the pane,  
Showing the place is brighter still  
Within, though bright without.  
There, at a cosy open fire  
Strange babes are grouped about.  
The children of the wind and tide—  
The urchins of the sky,  
Drying their wings from storms and things  
So they again can fly.

\*\*\*\*\*

**The Road Not Taken**

by Robert Frost (1875 - 1963)

from *Mountain Interval* (1916)

TWO roads diverged in a yellow wood,  
And sorry I could not travel both  
And be one traveler, long I stood  
And looked down one as far as I could  
To where it bent in the undergrowth;  
Then took the other, as just as fair,  
And having perhaps the better claim,  
Because it was grassy and wanted wear;  
Though as for that the passing there  
Had worn them really about the same,  
And both that morning equally lay  
In leaves no step had trodden black.  
Oh, I kept the first for another day!  
Yet knowing how way leads on to way,  
I doubted if I should ever come back.  
I shall be telling this with a sigh  
Somewhere ages and ages hence:  
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—  
I took the one less traveled by,  
And that has made all the difference.

**NOTED AND QUOTED**

A bore is a man who deprives you of solitude without providing you with company.

- Gian Vincenzo Gravina

Slush: snow with all the fun melted out.

- Art Linkletter, (1912 - )

Procrastination: the art of keeping up with yesterday. - Don Marquis, *New York Sun* columnist, (1878 - 1937)

Politeness: The art of choosing among your thoughts. - Dame Edith Sitwell, *British poet*, (1887 - 1964)

Eloquence is logic on fire.

- Lyman Beecher, *Presbyterian revivalist*, (1775 - 1863)

Flattery: the art of telling another person exactly what he thinks of himself. - Paul H. Gilbert

Vision is the art of seeing things invisible.

- Jonathan Swift, (1667 - 1745)

Impatience: waiting in a hurry.

- A child's definition

Neurotic: a person who, when you ask how she is, tells you. - Eleanor Clavage

A goal is a dream that has an ending.

- Duke Ellington, (1899 - 1974)

Bureaucracy: a giant mechanism operated by pygmies. - Honore Balzac, (1799 - 1850)

Conscience is what tells you that instinct is wrong. - Anonymous

Egotist, n. A person of low taste, more interested in himself than in me. - Ambrose Bierce, ( - 1914)

Genius is the ability to reduce the complicated to the simple. - C.W. Ceram

Genius ... is the capacity to see ten things where the ordinary man sees one.

- Ezra Pound, (1885 - 1972)

Laziness is the sleep of the mind.

- Marquis De Vauvenargues, *French soldier and moralist*, (1715 - 1747)

Manhood is the ability to outlast despair.

- Franklin P. Jones

Gossip is what no one claims to like, but everybody enjoys.

- Joseph Conrad, (1857 - 1924)

Experience is simply the name we give our mistakes. - Oscar Wilde, (1854 - 1900)

**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](http://www.inhometutoring.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 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: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

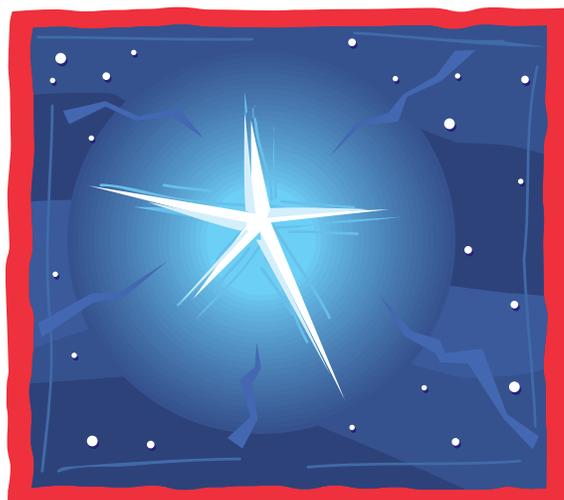
Please send form to:  
 American Mensa, Ltd.  
 Membership Dept  
 1229 Corporate Dr West  
 Arlington, TX 76006-6103

### ADVERTISEMENTS

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/](http://pages.cthome.net/6ft_ferrets/)

**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. 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](http://www.inhometutoring.com).

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



BUSINESS OFFICE AMERICAN MENSA, LTD.  
1229 Corporate Drive West  
Arlington, TX 76006-6103

Phone: 817-607-0060  
Fax: 817-649-5232  
E-mail: AmericanMensa@mensa.org  
Website: www.us.mensa.org

## LIST OF SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT MENSA OFFICERS

President	Rick D'Amica	203-368-2778	usamarbiol@aol.com 1353 Brooklawn Ave. Fairfield, CT 06825
Vice-President	Jim Mizera	203-522-1959	Jmizera@hotmail.com PMB #181, 7365 Main St. Stratford, CT 06614-1300
Treasurer	Paul Passarelli	203-846-1623	paul@44ellen.com 44 Ellen St Norwalk, CT 06851-2520
Secretary	Amy Harold	203-261-6517	amyharold@earthlink.net 110 Bart Rd. Monroe, CT 06468-1117
Editor	Jim Mizera	203-522-1959	Jmizera@hotmail.com PMB #181, 7365 Main St. Stratford, CT 06614-1300
Publisher	Amy Harold	203-261-6517	amyharold@earthlink.net
Activities	Nancy O'Neil	203-791-1668	Nancyoneil@aol.com 8B Beach St., Bethel, CT 06801-2429
Gifted Children	Jim Wood	203-876-0031	Shambalajim@netscape.net 17 Clinton St Milford, CT 06460
Web Master	Thomas O'Neill	203-336-5254	Doctec@snet.net 68 Pierce Ave. Bridgeport, CT 06604-1607
Proctor	Joseph Howells	203-775-4291	Drjoe@snet.net 10 Old Woods Rd. Brookfield, CT 06804-3630
Ombudsman	Gary Oberst	203-853-1810	gary@oberstlaw.com 111 East Ave. Norwalk, CT 06851-5014
Membership Officer	Jim Mizera	203-522-1959	Jmizera@hotmail.com
Reg Vice Chairman	Marghretta McBean	845-889-4588	rvc1@us.mensa.org

