

SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT MENSA CHRONICLE

If you or someone you know would like to be a speaker at our monthly dinner, please contact Jim Mizera at 203-522-1959 or Jmizera@hotmail.com. The dinner is held the third Saturday of the month.



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going back to 2000 are available on the Internet at <http://scm66.org> (Note: this is a new URL). 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.

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Southern CT Mensa is looking for an Activities Coordinator. If you would like to fill this position, please contact President Rick D'Amico at usamarbiol@aol.com

SCHEDULE OF CHAPTER EVENTS - AUGUST

Thursday, August 7, 7:30

Southern CT Mensa Billiards Event I

Come and join So. CT Mensa billiard enthusiasts for an evening of billiards, conversation and food. The first of two "Pool Party" events this month will be held at ON CUE BILLIARDS, 50 W. Washington St., SOUTH NORWALK, CT. The pool hall is in the basement at the far inner corner of the 50 Washington Street office building. Easy access via either I-95 (Exit 15) or the Merritt (via the Route 7 Extension). The parking lot costs \$2 to park in, through 10:30pm - then the rate goes to \$5. There is nearby street parking if you don't mind walking a bit.

On Cue Billiards Web Site:

<http://www.uncuebilliardsandmusic.com> Google Maps link: <http://tinyurl.com/2tfunq>. Questions? Contact Tom O'Neill, doctec2@gmail.com.

Friday, August 8, 7:00

Southern CT and Western MA Joint Dinner

Monthly dinner at the Old Sorrento Restaurant, Newtown Road, DANBURY, CT. Interested Mensans should contact Ward Mazucco at (203)

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744-1929, ext. 25, wjm@danburylaw.com, or Rev. Bill Loring at (203) 794-1389, frbill@mags.net.

Friday, August 11, 7:00

Southern CT and Western MA Joint Dinner

Monthly dinner at the Old Sorrento Restaurant, Newtown Road, DANBURY, CT. Interested Mensans should contact Ward Mazucco at (203) 744-1929, ext. 25, wjm@danburylaw.com, or Rev. Bill Loring at (203) 794-1389, frbill@mags.net.



Saturday, August 16, 6:30

Monthly Dinner

Speaker to be announced.

TONELLI'S RESTAURANT, 41 Grassy Plain St., Bethel, CT 06801. Dress is casual. Before the presentation, we will enjoy dinner. Choose what you like from the menu; restaurant adds tip onto the bill. You can bring a donation of money or food to benefit the Connecticut Food Bank. Contact Jim Mizera, jmizera@hotmail.com, 203-522-1959, for information and reservations. Guests are welcome.

If you wish to comment on articles or 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 e-mail address or 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.

Restaurant review: <http://acorn-online.net/acornonline/bestbets/bbets05-04-21.htm>. If you have suggestions for other places we can meet or how we can run our dinners better, please contact chapter President Rick D'Amico at usamarbiol@aol.com.

FROM STAMFORD:

1. Take I-95. Merge onto US-7 Connector NORTH via EXIT 15 toward NORWALK.
2. Take US-7 Connector to MAIN AVE / US-7. Continue to follow US-7 North about 2 miles.
3. Turn LEFT onto US-7 / CT-33 / WESTPORT RD & continue to follow US-7 about 5.5 miles.
4. Turn RIGHT onto SCHOOL ST / CT-107 / CT-57. Follow CT-107 about 1.5 miles.
5. Turn SLIGHT RIGHT onto REDDING RD / CT-107. Follow REDDING RD. 5.7 miles. REDDING RD becomes CT-53. Go about 3 miles to the Restaurant, on the left at 41 Grassy Plain St. Bethel, CT 06801-2001

FROM BRIDGEPORT:

1. Take CT-15 SOUTH / MERRITT PKWY Exit 44 toward CT-58 / FAIRFIELD / REDDING.
2. Turn LEFT onto CONGRESS ST.
3. Turn RIGHT onto BLACK ROCK TURNPIKE / CT-58. Follow CT-58 about 15 miles.
4. Turn LEFT onto CT-302 / MILWAUKEE AVE.
5. Turn LEFT onto GREENWOOD AVE / CT-302 and go about 1.5 miles.
6. Turn SLIGHT RIGHT onto GRASSY PLAIN ST / CT-53. Go about .1 miles to the Restaurant, at 41 Grassy Plain St.

FROM HARTFORD & I-84:

1. Take I-84 to Exit 5, the Route 53 exit.
2. Take Route 53 south about 3.3 miles.
3. Tonelli's Restaurant is on the right, shortly before the light and intersection.

Tuesday, August 19, 7:30

Southern CT Mensa Billiards Event II

The second of two "Pool Party" events this month will be held at THE CORNER POCKET, 501 Boston Post Road, ORANGE, CT. The pool hall is in the corner of a strip mall, accessible via I-95 (or the Merritt via Milford Pkwy/I-95 Connector, Exit 54). Note: If you buy a mixed drink, pool is FREE for the night (Sunday through Tuesday).

Directions:

I-95 Coming from BRIDGEPORT:

Take I-95 to Exit 39B (Route 1 heading North/East) - stay to the right as you drive the ramp to Route 1. You will drive past the Connecticut Post Mall on the right, and keep going straight thru a number of lights for a little over two miles. You're getting close to the pool hall when you see a Bertucci's restaurant and a Starbuck's on the right; shortly after that light you'll see a Bob's Furniture store on the left, followed by the 501 Boston Post Rd plaza, where the pool hall is located.

I-95 Coming from NEW HAVEN:

Take I-95 to Exit 41 - Marsh Hill Rd. (where the Showcase Cinemas used to be). At end of ramp, turn right. Stay on Marsh Hill until you get to the Route 1 intersection, then turn left onto Route 1 (Post Rd). The 501 Boston Post Road plaza is approx. 2/3 mile ahead on the right-hand side.

Either direction via MERRITT PARKWAY:

Take Milford Parkway connector exit (54) to I-95 North entrance, then follow directions above for I-95 coming from Bridgeport. (You will encounter I-95 Exits 39A/B very shortly after getting onto I-95 North from the Milford Parkway connector.)

Google Maps link: <http://tinyurl.com/2ovywh>
 Corner Pocket phone #: (203) 756-0646
 Questions? Contact Tom O'Neill,
doctec2@gmail.com.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS FOR SEPTEMBER

Friday, September 12, 7:00

Southern CT and Western MA Joint Dinner

See above for details

Saturday, September 20, 6:30

Monthly Dinner

See above for details

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CONNECTICUT AND WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS**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.

Mensans on the Radio:

C&WM Mensan Janine Bujalski is on the airwaves every 1st & 3rd Friday 6-10 a.m. on 89.5FM, WPKN in Bridgeport, CT. There is a limited internet broadcast - about 25 can listen simultaneously at www.wpkn.org. From 6-9 AM there's jazz, blues & music from Brazil and from 9-10 AM the music is from Louisiana, mostly Cajun & zydeco.

C&WM Mensan Will Mackey is hosting Friday evening Classics from 4:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. weekly on 91.3 FM, WWUH, in West Hartford. The name of the program is "What You Will" and its focus is chamber music.

For event listings in the Media, leave a message for me by the 10th of the previous month at (860) 872-3106 or email Lilith@snet.net Subject: Calendar There's also the [CWM-Announce] upcoming events reminder email list, which I send out *approximately* weekly. Subscribe and unsubscribe options are located at <http://lists.us.mensa.org/mailman/listinfo/cwm-announce> for your convenience. And any Mensan who wants to notify their fellow Ms about any late-breaking event s/he wants to share with our delightful chapter, please email me ASAP with the details and I'll get it out to the list. You may also check the website www.cwm.us.mensa.org for our calendar updates.

AUGUST

1 Friday 5:30 pm

Happy Hour in Wallingford

(ME, 1st Fridays) Ann Polanski (contact her at 203-269-4565 or ann.polanski@rfsworld.com) hosts us upstairs at George's II Restaurant, 950 Yale Avenue, Wallingford, CT 06492 Phone: 203-269-1059. Directions: Exit 66 off Wilbur Cross Parkway. Turn left (south) onto Rte 5. Take first left that's not a highway entrance onto Yale Avenue. George's II is in the Yale Plaza on the right.

1 Friday 6:30 pm

NEW!!! First Friday Confluence

in Sturbridge, MA (ME, 1st Friday) Come join other members of our chapter, along with members of Boston Mensa, as we meet for an evening of casual dining and conversation at Rom's Italian Restaurant at 179 Main St. (Rte. 131), Sturbridge, MA. Close to northeastern Connecticut, just minutes from the Rte. 84/Mass Pike/Rte. 20 interchange, Rom's offers either a sumptuous buffet or a menu that includes numerous choices of pasta, seafood, and other dinner selections. But more importantly, it's an opportunity to get together with old friends and meet new ones. For more information contact Tom Tracey via email at cttracey@comcast.net or phone 413-267-5750 (Disregard any goofy answering machine greeting.)

Directions: Rte. 20 west from Exit 3 off Rte. 84 for about 1/2 mile and turn left at the 1st light onto Rte. 131. Rom's is about 2 miles south on the right across from the Shaw's shopping mall. Look for a table displaying a large "M".

6, 13, 20, 27 Wednesdays 12 Noon

West Hartford Lunch

(WE) Wednesday lunch will be held at the Hometown Buffet in the Shaw's shopping plaza off Prospect St. West Hartford. All you can eat, cheap, and the service time is as fast as you can pick up your food!

From 84West: take exit #44 (Prospect). Cross through the light right into the plaza.

From 84East: take exit #44 (Prospect). Take left at the light then a left at the next light (you will have crossed over Rte 84) and then a right into the plaza. There is a large selection of food for a modest cost. We will be seated at the front of the restaurant (away from the food counters).

Contact: John Bentley, 860-644-0435

6 Wednesday 7:05 pm

Mensa Goes to a Ballgame

at New Britain Stadium. Five dollars buys you a general admission ticket to an evening of Mensa chatter and professional baseball. And they sell beer. Meet in Section 213, four rows from the top, and join in the fun. The New Hampshire Fisher Cats (Toronto Blue Jays farm club) wrap-up a three game series with the Rock Cats

(Twins). The next Mensa ballgame will be in April of 2009. Details from tom.thomas@the-spa.com or www.rockcats.com

7, 14, 21, 28 Thursdays 7:00 pm

Scrabble

(ME) at Emmanuel Synagogue, 160 Mohegan Drive, West Hartford. Ellen Leonard, 860-667-1966 (Please call first to make sure this is happening today, canceled on Jewish holidays.)

8 Friday 6:30 pm

Diner Dinner

(semimonthly, 2nd and 4th Fridays) at Olympia Diner, Rte 5, Newington, just north of the Berlin town line and North East Utilities. Menu 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. Questions? For info, contact Howard Brender at 860-635-5673 or howiebren@aol.com Subject: Diner Dinner

8 Friday 6:30-9:00 pm

Open Mike Night - NEW!

(alternate Fridays) M Fran Devevo invites everyone to come to Southwick, MA circle jam at Red Riding Hood's Basket on the road to the lake making a turn at the gas station across from Big Y in Southwick, then go down I think 168 for 1 mile, it's on the left, or call me. Peace. Fran Devevo 860-413-3741 (no calls after 9pm, please) (psst - Tonight's Fran's birthday too!)

9 Saturday 9:00 am

Breakfast

(ME, 2nd Saturday) Gridlock Grille on Colman St., New London, CT. From both directions on I-95, take Frontage Road exit, turn off at Colman St. ramp, go left at end of ramp. Call Marge Cohen, 860-887-1297 for details.

13 Wednesday 5:30 pm

Happy Hour in Branford

(ME, 2nd Wed) Donovan's Reef 1212 Main Street, Branford Conn. 06405. The Donovan's Reef <http://donovans-reef.com> web site has a small map, and here are some directions with distances - from I-95 take exit 54/Cedar Street.

Go south on Cedar Street crossing Rt. 1/Boston Post Road for about 0.5 mi. to Rose Street. Take a left on Rose and go 0.25 mi. to a driveway on the right which has a low sign that says "1188 - 1238" where you will enter a parking lot for a number of businesses in a complex known as Lockworks Square. Drive part way through the lot and look for Donovan's Reef on the left.

Locals can also enter Lockworks Square from the Ivy Street side just off of Main Street where Shoreline Foods faces Ivy. The lounge is on the left inside. I'll see about a table reservation and will likely have an "M" sign visible. We start around 6. I'm told there is some sort of daily bar goodie along with any menu items that you may want to order. Donovan's phone number is 203-488-5573. Questions? Contact Joe Wonowski at 203-785-2998 weekdays, and 203-457-9770 evenings. Hope to see you there!

13 Wednesday 6:30-9:00 pm

Open Mike Night - NEW!

Open Mike night (alternate Wednesdays) at Peaberry's coffee shop in Simsbury. This is a regular musician event, and Mensans are welcome as I am a Mensan and am welcoming anyone that wants to come. There are plenty of tables, good munchies and the music is great. I play too. Also anyone wanting to "Jam" please call me to set up something, guitar, hand drum, etc. thanks. I look forward to meeting you in person at a future M gathering. Fran Devevo 860-413-3741 (no calls after 9pm, please) Directions: Peaberry's is on rte 10 in Simsbury next to the CVS and Fitzgerald's grocery.

21 Thursday 6:30 pm

Pioneer Valley Dinner

(ME, 3rd Thursday)) at The Student Prince at 8 Fort Street in Springfield, Mass. We welcome all comers, even those from south of the border. :-). Since I will need to make a reservation at the restaurant, folks will need to RSVP by January 14th to Ian Fraser ianfraser@usa.net

22 Friday 5:00 pm

Happy Hour

(ME, 4th Friday) Colonial Tymes, 2389 Dixwell Ave, Hamden. Located about 1/2 mile north of Exit 60, Wilbur Cross Parkway. We are now reserving the middle tables on the left as you

walk in the bar. Dinner is a possibility if enough people are interested. Come on down and join us this month, we'd love to see ya. Contact Gail Trowbridge

22 Friday 6:30 pm

Diner Dinner

(semimonthly, 2nd and 4th Fridays) at Olympia Diner, Rte 5, Newington, just north of the Berlin town line and North East Utilities. Menu 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. Questions? For info, contact Barb Holstein at 860-632-7873 or 860-793-4410 or email BarbCPA@att.net, Subject: Diner Dinner

22 Friday 6:30-9:00 pm

Open Mike Night - NEW!

(alternate Fridays) M Fran Devevo invites everyone to come to Southwick, MA circle jam at Red Riding Hood's Basket on the road to the lake making a turn at the gas station across from Big Y in Southwick, then go down I think 168 for 1 mile, it's on the left, or call me. Peace. Fran Devevo 860-413-3741 (no calls after 9pm, please) (psst - Tonight's Fran's birthday too!)

27 Wednesday 12 noon

Middlebury Lunch

(ME, last Wednesday) 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. Contact Richard Fogg at 860-274-2370 for more info.

27 Wednesday 6:30-9:00 pm

Open Mike Night - NEW!

Open Mike night (alternate Wednesdays) at Peaberry's coffee shop in Simsbury. This is a regular musician event, and Mensans are welcome as I am a Mensan and am welcoming anyone that wants to come. There are plenty of tables, good munchies and the music is great. I play too. Also anyone wanting to "Jam" please

call me to set up something, guitar, hand drum, etc. thanks. I look forward to meeting you in person at a future M gathering. Fran Devevo 860-413-3741 (no calls after 9pm, please) Directions: Peaberry's is on rte 10 in Simsbury next to the CVS and Fitzgerald's grocery.

29 Friday thru Monday September 1 (Labor Day)

Weekend at WildWood!!

Second annual camping and hanging out trip to private camping ground with our C&WM hosts Pamela and Christopher Guinan. Labor Day weekend Mensa campers and day-trippers, too, are welcome to beautiful, rustic WildWood, located about-a-mile from Route 57, and next to Granville State Forest in Tolland, Massachusetts where for four days and three nights C&WMers will be offered some familiar Mensan fare and some surprises, too (See details in Media ad). Check out the scenery at www.wildwoodpropertyowners.com Lots of activities and family fun, so bring your kids. Camping, swimming, fishing (catch and release), hiking, sunset campfires, stargazing under a clear sky with no Moon to bleach out the stars (weather permitting), playing encouraged, day trippers welcome too! We need committee members and playmates to get this weekend going for everyone's enjoyment. Volunteer to have a great time! Whether you plan to relax in the sun at one of WildWoods five beaches, or in the air-conditioned clubhouse, please call Pamela Guinan at (860) 563-5761 or email Pamela.cwm@hotmail.com to let her know if you'll be coming as a camper or a day visitor, and help make this weekend fabulous.

29 Friday 7:30 pm

Rolling Card Party and Game Night

Rolling Card Party and Game Night at the Clubhouse, at the Weekend at WildWood locale in Tolland, Massachusetts (See details in Media ad). Double elimination hearts, Quiddler, Sets, Scrabble - Have a new game you'd like us to try? Come on Down! BYOB. Please call Pamela Guinan at (860) 563-5761 or email Pamela.cwm@hotmail.com for anticipated headcount.

30 Saturday 12 Noon

Let's Do Lunch

at New Boston Inn, 101 N Main St, Sandisfield, MA, 413-258-4477, about 4 miles from the Weekend at WildWood campsite, near the junction of Rte 57 with Rte 8. Menus, directions, and ambience can be viewed at <http://www.newbostoninn.com/> Please Call Pam ahead of time (see above) to help her estimate the anticipated headcount for the restaurant. Campers and noncampers welcome.

30 Saturday 2:30 pm

Book Discussion

(and kibitzing) at Blueberry Beach at the Weekend at WildWood locale in Tolland MA (see above). We'll be talking about your favorite book (and you can tell us why it is). Bring a beach chair, sunblock, insect repellent, and a small munchie to share if you like, BYOB. If it rains, there is a delightful indoor area in the Clubhouse we can use. Campers and noncampers welcome. Questions? call Gisela 860-888-9867 or email Lilith@beadylittleskies.com

REGIONAL GATHERINGS

SEPT. 12-14

**COLLOQUIUM 2008,
TRACKING GRANNY'S GRANNY:
THE GENEALOGY QUEST**

will take place SEPT. 12-14 in Salt Lake City. Spend a weekend in this world-renowned center of genealogical research, where you'll find millions of historical records at your fingertips. Attend sessions given by specialists in the field, covering the methodology and accuracy of your research, solving problems related to evidence and dead-end leads, and using the Internet to your best advantage. Join your fellow Mensans to discover new techniques, share your stories, and learn how to pursue your own unique family history. Here is a list of Colloquium speakers confirmed to date:

Christine Rose will present Problem Solving: Strategies for Success Colleen Fitzpatrick will present two program, A Different Kind of DNA Talk and You Will Never Look at Your Old Photos the Same Way Again!

James W. Warren will present If Your Ancestors Had Email featuring stories of the weird and wonderful discoveries genealogists make and what can be learned from them.

Sharon Carmack will present He Lived, He Married, He Died...But I Want More!

Colloquium 2008 will be held at the Hilton Salt Lake City Center. Mensan registration is \$170 through April 30. To learn more about the program and to register, visit www.colloquium.us.mensa.org.

Jill Beckham, Foundation Director

jillb@americanmensa.org

817-607-0060 x 5509

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Register at www.colloquium.us.mensa.org)

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*FROM THE REGIONAL VICE CHAIRMAN**LORI NORRIS**RVCHAT*

Day 19 of our summer odyssey and we've been in 14 states and traveled 3,517 miles. We've experienced elevations ranging from 28' (home in Warwick, Rhode Island) to 11,213' (driving near Loveland, Colorado) to 14,110' (the top of Pike's Peak via the cog railway). Temperatures have ranged from a low of 42 degrees at the top of Pike's Peak to a high of 106 degrees in Moab, Colorado. Amazingly, there were no mosquitoes in the mountains, but the desert near the Colorado River was full of them - ask Ron about his many donations. Even though he was being nibbled, it was great fun to watch the bats getting even. So far, I have taken 448 pictures (digital cameras are wonderful) and Ron has also taken many - aren't you glad that you won't be subjected to our slide shows? If you are interested in seeing any, let me know and I'll be happy to share.

I have been surprised by many things: the numerous wind farms in Kansas; swimming at a campground in Colorado and the only other two people in the pool are from Vermont; taking a water break while hiking in Arches National Park and sharing a shady spot with a couple from Rhode Island; and the amazing number of eastern Europeans vacationing or working in Colorado and Utah. Of course, that

flat tire we discovered while exiting the parking garage in Denver was a surprise, but not a pleasant one.

The Annual Gathering (AG) in Denver was a record breaker. More than 2,500 attended - a significant increase over prior AGs. With the help of more than 800 Mensans and some non-Mensans, including a bride and groom having their reception at the hotel, Cleveland Area Mensa President Alan Baltis broke the Guinness World Record for the number of hugs given in a one-hour period. I'm proud to say that I helped. Knowing as many Mensans as I do, I think this record was created for us to break. What record will we break next? Any ideas?

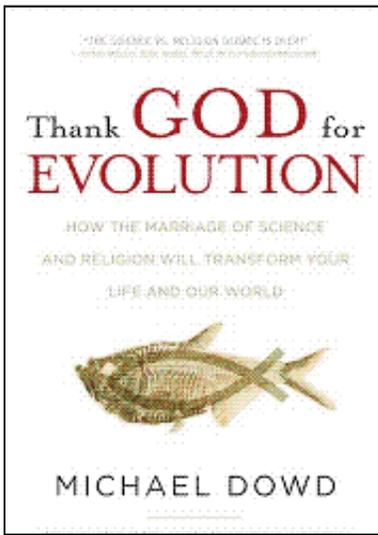
Many Region 1 Mensans were at the AG. I saw many old friends and made some new ones. Next year the AG will be held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; it's within a reasonable driving distance, in my opinion, of most of Region 1. If you have never attended an AG or if it has been many years, I urge you to consider attending the 2009 AG. I know that many members think of an AG as one of the biggest membership benefits.

Lori

If you wish to comment on articles or 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 e-mail address or 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.

BOOK REVIEW

Rick D'Amico

***Thank God for Evolution: How the Marriage of Science and Religion Will Transform Your Life and Our World****by Michael Dowd*

Since April 2002, Michael Dowd, who has been described as an "itinerant evolutionary evangelist", and his wife Connie Barlow, an author of popular science books, have spent their lives traveling, and teaching what they call "the marriage of science and religion for personal and planetary well-being." His previous book, *EarthSpirit: A Handbook for Nurturing an Ecological Christianity*, was published in 1991.

The creation vs. evolution debate is widely held to be essentially a culture war between science and religion, with creation being the religious argument and evolution being the scientific position. In a seemingly ironic twist, this book makes the case for embracing both creationism and evolution as truths, each of which corroborates the other.

Each chapter and sub-chapter is preceded by an epigram that gives the reader a clue as to what to expect. The book also contains numerous anecdotes that add a little humorous take on things. My favorite is Dowd's account of one encounter following a church service. A man approached the author and identified himself as an atheist. Dowd responded that he was, too. He clarified that by adding, "Tell me about this God you don't believe in. I'm quite sure I don't believe in that God either."

One of the more interesting concepts described in the book is the quadrune brain. Dowd believes that man's brain has four components that reflect his evolutionary history. Each ele-

ment is responsible for a different aspect of man's behavior. This is a recurring theme throughout the book.

What some might find very useful is a portion of the book where Dowd takes the 14 billion year history of the universe and compresses it into a scale of 100 years. It helps put time into perspective; events that we consider ancient are actually quite recent in the universe's life. For example, it wasn't until the 96th year that animals moved from oceans to land, and the first species of human (*Homo habilis*) didn't arrive until December 25th of the 99th year. *Homo sapiens*, or modern man, didn't emerge until the final day of year 99.

Of course, all of this leads us to wonder where we're going. Dowd describes some of the challenges that man as a species will likely encounter over the next 250 years (one minute in the compressed version of the universe's timeline). He also describes some of the possible, random "wild cards" (e.g., natural disasters) that could take place. Of course, natural disasters historically were driving forces in evolution, so maybe they're not as devastating as one might think.

I highly recommend *Thank God for Evolution* for anyone who is interested in either science or spirituality, as it opens a dialogue to the concerns of both the creationist and evolutionist camps. It unifies two seemingly (at least to the uninitiated) conflicting arguments into a cohesive and mutually supportive view.

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432pp

PUZZLES & QUESTIONS

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

1. Name the seven seas.
2. What college is the most underrated? Which is the most overrated?
3. How many persons does the average U.S. household have?
4. Name as many engineering professions as you can.

ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S PUZZLES:

1. Name the member nations of OPEC.
A: The 12 countries in OPEC and the year they joined are Iran (1960), Iraq (1960), Kuwait (1960), Saudi Arabia (1960), Venezuela (1960), Qatar (1961), Libya (1962), United Arab Emirates (1967), Algeria (1969), Nigeria (1971), Ecuador (1973), and Angola (2007). Gabon was a member from 1975 - 1994. Indonesia joined in 1962 but quit in May, 2008. OPEC has had its headquarters in Vienna, Austria, since 1965.
3. How many refugees are there in the world?
A: There are about 14.5 million refugees and asylum seekers in the world now.

A refugee is someone who has left his or her country because of a fear of persecution. An asylum seeker is someone. There are also 21 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) in the world. These are people who have fled persecution but remained within their country.

4. In Greece, how far is Athens from Sparta?
A: Today, Athens is 153 miles from Sparta. Modern Sparta is a town in Laconia, Greece, with a population of about 18,000. The town was rebuilt in 1834 on the site of the ancient city.

True remorse is never just a regret over consequences; it is a regret over motive.

- *Mignon McLaughlin, (1915 -), U.S. author, editor, humorist*

Alcoholism is the only disease where you decide how sick you want to be today. - *Anonymous*

Don't fight forces; use them.

- *Buckminster Fuller, (1895 - 1983)*

Man can do what he wants, but he cannot will what he wills. - *Arthur Schopenhauer, (1788 - 1860)*

A novel is an impression, not an argument.

- *Thomas Hardy, (1840 - 1928), English novelist, poet*

Why should people go out and pay to see bad films when they can stay at home and see bad television for nothing?

- *Samuel Goldwyn, (1882 - 1974)*

A man who has a million dollars is as well off as if he were rich.

- *John Jacob Astor, (1763 - 1848),*

The dead might as well try to speak to the living as the old to the young.

- *Willa Cather, (1873 - 1947), U.S. novelist*

The young have aspirations that never come to pass, the old have reminiscences of what never happened.

- *Saki, (1870 - 1916), Scottish novelist, short-story writer*

There is no little enemy.

- *Benjamin Franklin (1706 - 1790)*

California is a nice place to live if you happen to be an orange.

- *Fred Allen, (1894 - 1956), U.S. comedian*

A healthy person is one who has not been adequately researched. - *Mohan Singh*

It is not that they cannot see the solution. It is that they cannot see the problem.

- *G.K. Chesterton, (1874-1936)*

Action is the last refuge of those who cannot dream. - *Oscar Wilde (1854 - 1900)*

Every one is a moon and has a dark side which he never shows to anybody.

- *Mark Twain, (1835 - 1910)*

One never tires of what is well written, style is life! It is the very blood of thought!

- *Gustave Flaubert, (1821 - 1880), French novelist*

What would be the use of immortality to a person who cannot use well a half an hour.

- *Ralph Waldo Emerson, (1803 - 1882)*

To be understood a writer has to explain almost everything.

- *Eugene Delacroix, (1798 - 1863), French painter*

We have the power to bore people long after we are dead.

- *Sinclair Lewis, (1885 - 1951), U.S. novelist*

Men never plan to be failures; they simply fail to plan to be successful. - *William A. Ward*

An artist is not paid for his labor but for his vision.

- *James McNeill Whistler, (1834 - 1903), U.S. painter*

We greatly overestimate what we can accomplish in one year. But we greatly underestimate what we can accomplish in five years.

- *Peter Ferdinand Drucker*

We participate in a tragedy; at a comedy we only look. - *Aldous Leonard Huxley*

When I can't talk sense, I talk metaphor.

- *John Philpot Curran, (1750 - 1817), Irish lawyer*

CHAPTER NOTES

Southern CT Mensa is looking for an Activities Coordinator. If you would like to fill this position, please contact President Rick D'Amico at usamarbiol@aol.com

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