

# 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](mailto:Jmizera@hotmail.com). The dinner is held the third Saturday of the month.



## ARCHIVED COPIES OF THE CHRONICLE

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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**TEEN MENSANS** – Interested in forming a Teen Mensa group in CT Mensa? If you'd like to get together and meet with other young Mensans to discuss interests and plan activities, this is your chance. Contact Quinn Gruver at [ConnecticutLady@aol.com](mailto:ConnecticutLady@aol.com).

Admitted in CT, NY &amp; OR

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

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**ATTENTION SOUTHERN CT MENSANS:** *The Southern CT Mensa Executive Committee needs a member to assume the open position of Secretary. We also need Proctors, who administer admissions tests to local candidates for Mensa. Please notify one of the current board members to volunteer for these positions.*

**HIKING IN FAIRFIELD COUNTY**  
**(Non-Mensa event)**

A few members have mentioned an interest in hiking locally recently. One group that sponsors regular local hikes of varying lengths and includes a number of Mensans as members is the Central Fairfield County Hikers (<http://hiking.meetup.com/392/>). This group uses meetup.com (a great site, in case you're not familiar with it) to coordinate its hikes. There is a detailed description of each hike. To participate in a hike, please sign up through meetup.com. If you have any questions about the hiking group, please feel free to contact Deb Jennings [locsec@rocketmail.com](mailto:locsec@rocketmail.com), (President, Southern CT Mensa). In addition, if you are interested in organizing a hike or trying to get in contact with other Mensa hikers, we can include information in this monthly letter and help you with organizing and publicizing your events.

**SCHEDULE OF CHAPTER EVENTS - AUGUST**

Friday, August 13, 7:00

**Danbury Dinner - Southern Connecticut and Connecticut/Western Massachusetts Joint Dinner** at a new venue, The Pasta Garden, 174 Federal Rd, Brookfield CT 06804 (restaurant phone: (203) 775-0426). Interested M's should contact Ward Mazzucco at 203-744-1929, ext 25, [wjm@danburylaw.com](mailto:wjm@danburylaw.com) or Rev. Bill Loring at 203-794-1389, [fr.bill@comcast.net](mailto:fr.bill@comcast.net) for more info on location and/or reservations.

Saturday, August 14, 4:00 pm

**Young Mensans Meeting**

Wilton Borders bookstore at 14 Danbury Road.  
Contact Quinn Gruver for information:  
[ConnecticutLADY@aol.com](mailto:ConnecticutLADY@aol.com).

Sunday, August 22, 3:00 pm to ?

**BILLARDS**

At U.S.1 Billiards, West Haven CT (just past the Orange/West Haven border, past Best Buy and Target, on Route 1 - easy access off of Exits 41 or 42 of I-95. U.S.1 has a deal where you can play from 3pm to 8pm for a flat \$10 rate. Like On Cue, all the tables are 9 ft Brunswick Gold Crown tables. Contact Tom O'Neill at [doctec2@gmail.com](mailto:doctec2@gmail.com) for further info.

Wednesday, August 25, 7:00 pm

**Book Discussion**

Borders bookstore coffee shop, 14 Danbury Road (Route 7, near the Norwalk town line), Wilton, CT 06897. *How Doctors Think*, by Jerome Groopman, M.D, 2007. Contact Jim Mizera at [jmizera@hotmail.com](mailto:jmizera@hotmail.com) or (203) 522-1959 for reservations or info.

Friday, August 27, 8:00 pm

**Theater Event**

The Elm Shakespeare Company performs Shakespeare's THE WINTER'S TALE at Edgerton Park, 75 Cliff Street, New Haven, CT (near Hamden line). Admission free but donations encouraged. This is an outdoor theater so please arrive early and bring a chair. Contact Jim Mizera at (203) 522-1959, [jmizera@hotmail.com](mailto:jmizera@hotmail.com), for info or reservations.

**LOOKING AHEAD**

October 2, 2010, 11:00 - 5:00

**A Day At The Races**

Lime Rock Park Racetrack, Lime Rock CT.  
Hosts: Mike Yost (GNYM), Tom Thomas (C&WM)  
The Bruce Grohe Memorial SIG invites you to the beautiful Lime Rock Park race track to enjoy a day of SCCA Sports Car racing. Join That Nice Tom Thomas and the occasionally polite Mike Yost, sit on a grass hillside watching a variety of sports cars negotiate Lime Rocks twisty, challenging circuit. Feast on whatever you bring (and what you might care to buy from the sur-

prisingly good concession stands) and enjoy autumn in New England. Dress in layers, expect anything from sunny and warm to cool and damp; the races run rain or shine.

Meet us on the Infield Spectator Area overlooking the Esses. Look for yellow balloons. BYO lawn chairs or blankets, picnic food and drink. No pets and No Glass Bottles. Admission is reasonable, 15 dollars at the gate, 10 dollars advance purchase from the track's website.

Lime Rock is located in northwestern Connecticut, and getting there on the scenic roads of the area is part of the fun. For more information, including directions and how to order tickets visit their website: <http://www.lime-rock.com/> or you can call them at 1-800-RACE-LRP. For details about this event, or to RSVP, email [mike@mikeyost.com](mailto:mike@mikeyost.com), or call his mobile 917-603-0410

## **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, 860-888-9867, email: [lilith@beadylittleskies.com](mailto:lilith@beadylittleskies.com).

### **AUGUST**

4, 11, 18, 25 Wednesdays 6:30 - 9:00 pm

#### **Open Mike Night**

(WE) at Peaberry's Coffee Shop on Rte 10 in between Fitzgeralds Market and CVS, Simsbury, CT. This is a regular musician event. If you want to see MensaFran make a fool out of herself, this is the place. Great munchies, coffee, tea, freeziedrinks and stuff. No alcohol. Fun people. Fran Devevo 860-738-8488 leave a message, calls returned about 9 pm or weekends or email [mensafran@yahoo.com](mailto:mensafran@yahoo.com)

5, 12, 19, 26 Thursdays 6:30 pm

#### **Scrabble**

(WE) at the Fellowship Housing clubhouse, 24 Starkel Road, West Hartford (it's the small building right where the road bends). For more info contact Lois Cappellano 413-567-4702

6 Friday 5:30 pm

#### **Happy Hour in Wallingford**

(ME, 1st Fridays) Ann Polanski (contact her at 203-269-4565 or cell 860-817-9910 or [ann.polanski@comcast.net](mailto:ann.polanski@comcast.net)) at The Old Dublin, 171

Quinnipiac Street, Wallingford, CT 06492, 203-949-8022, <http://www.theolddublin.com> From Route 15: Take exit 64 toward Wallingford/Downtown, Sharp right at Quinnipiac Street, At 0.3 miles turn left to stay on Quinnipiac Street

The Old Dublin will be on the left about 0.3 miles from where you turned left

From I-91: Take I-91 to exit 13 Turn right at end of exit onto South Colony Road

At about 0.2 miles, turn left onto Quinnipiac Street (Wallingford center, just before the gazebo). The Old Dublin will be on your right within about two blocks.

8 Sunday 12:30 pm

#### **Indian Lunch**

(ME, 2nd Sunday) Meet us at Haveli India Restaurant for an all you can eat Indian buffet for only \$9.95! The food is fabulous and the restaurant is conveniently located at 1300 South Main St., Rte 17 in South Middletown. Call Barb Holstein for a reservation, 860-632-7873 or [BarbCPA@att.net](mailto:BarbCPA@att.net). To read about the restaurant, or get directions, check [www.haveliindia.com](http://www.haveliindia.com)

8 Sunday 1:30 pm

#### **Boston Symphony Orchestra concert at Tanglewood**

Route 183 (West St.) 1.5 miles west of the center of Lenox, MA. We'll meet at the Box Office at 1:30 for a 2:30 performance of music by Beethoven and Dvorak. Lawn tickets are \$18 and do not have to be purchased ahead of time. Bring blanket, chair, food, beverages (alcohol OK), etc. Contact Lyndon Moors at [Lyndon213@verizon.net](mailto:Lyndon213@verizon.net) or cellphone 413- 244-0329 to confirm attendance. Leave contact info in case of rain; decision to be made on the 7th. - RAIN DATE August 15 for above event. Same plan, but with music of Gershwin, Schuller, and Bernstein.

11 Wednesday 5:30 pm

**Shoreline Happy Hour**

(ME, 2nd Wednesday) in Branford at The Donovan's Reef [www.donovans-reef.com](http://www.donovans-reef.com) web site has a small map, and here are some directions with distances - from I-95 take exit 54/Cedar Street. Proceed south on Cedar Street, crossing Route 1 (North Main Street) for about 0.5 mi. to Rose Street. Take a left on Rose, pass the Post Office on your right and go 0.25 mi. to a driveway on the right where you will enter the parking lot for a number of businesses in a complex known as Lockworks Square. Donovan's Reef is partway through on the left. Locals can also enter Lockworks Square from the Ivy Street side just off of Main Street. Shoreline Foods faces Ivy. The lounge is on the left inside. We usually reserve the round table in the corner (with potential to annex adjacent ones) and will likely have an "M" sign visible. We start around 5:30. There are free daily bar munchies and numerous tasty items in the comprehensive and modestly priced menu. Hope to see you there! Questions? Contact Mike Wilson at 203-481-2858 or [MahoutMike@aol.com](mailto:MahoutMike@aol.com)

13 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](mailto:howiebren@aol.com)  
Subject: Diner Dinner

14 Saturday TBA

**Mensa Admissions Testing**

(ME, 2nd Saturday): C&WM Mensa now holds regular testing in Newington, CT on the second Saturday of every month. Please preregister to attend by contacting the testing Proctor Coordinator, David B. Collier at [Testing@CWM.US.Mensa.org](mailto:Testing@CWM.US.Mensa.org) for more details, including directions. In addition to the regular testing, additional tests will be made available around the region as candidate interest requires. To register for testing updates, go to [www.us.mensa.org/directtesting](http://www.us.mensa.org/directtesting) and provide an email

address. You can also save time at the site by paying for your testing session online at [www.us.mensa.org/testingvoucher](http://www.us.mensa.org/testingvoucher).

14 Saturday 12 noon

**Leonard Nimoy (YES - that one) Secret Selves photography exhibit**

at Mass MoCA (map here), Marshall St. in downtown North Adams, MA. Nimoy's subjects are residents of nearby Northampton MA (more info). Museum admission is \$15. Park at Mass MoCA and walk around the corner to China Buffet (37 Main St.) for a 12:00 lunch, and we'll proceed to the museum from there. Ticket allows admission to all current exhibits until 6 PM closing. Contact Lyndon Moors at [Lyndon213@verizon.net](mailto:Lyndon213@verizon.net) or cellphone 413- 244-0329 to confirm attendance.

14 Saturday evening

**Steam Vent Concert/Open Mike**

returns (ME, 2nd Saturday). Email Deb at [info@firstchurchofwinsted](mailto:info@firstchurchofwinsted) for information, or Fran Devevo at [mensafran@yahoo.com](mailto:mensafran@yahoo.com)

15 Sunday 3:00 pm

**High Tea in memory of Jane Elizabeth Sjoman**

Reservation required no later than 8/8. Contact Barb Holstein at 860-632-7873 or [BarbCPA@att.net](mailto:BarbCPA@att.net) for information.

19 Thursday 6:30 pm

**Pioneer Valley Dinner**

(ME, 3rd Thursday) at the Amherst Brewing Company, 24 North Pleasant Street in Amherst, Mass. Questions? Ian Fraser [ianfraser@usa.net](mailto:ianfraser@usa.net)

27 Friday 5:00 pm

**Happy Hour**

(ME, 4th Friday) We are going to have the August happy hour back at the Playwright in Hamden. This is just for August. Same time, 5pm. We hope to sit outside and they have had nice free food in the past. <http://www.playwrightirishpub.com/> Come on down and join us this month, we'd love to see ya. Contact Gail Trowbridge 203-877-4472 or [gail\\_trowbridge@yahoo.com](mailto:gail_trowbridge@yahoo.com)

27 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

***REGIONAL GATHERINGS***

***Connecticut & Western Massachusetts Mensa  
MENSAAUTUMN 2010***

Sponsored by Connecticut & Western  
Massachusetts Mensa

October 15-17, 2010  
Super 8 Hotel and Conference Center  
Manchester, CT

Register early and spend less \$75 until  
September 15, 2010 - \$90 thereafter Children  
under 12 - half price Day rates available - con-  
tact registrar Registration Includes  
Friday - supper, A Connecticut Yankee in King  
Arthur's Pub Saturday - lunch, speakers, dinner,  
surprise guest, Ron's Riverboat Bar Saturday  
and Sunday - continental breakfast All weekend  
- hospitality, games, tournaments, an interesting  
group of speakers and more surprises

Hotel  
Super 8 Hotel/Conference Center  
20 Taylor St., Manchester, CT 06040  
Call (860) 643-1864 for reservations.  
Mention Mensa and the rate is only \$70 a night

February 18 – 20, 2011

***MENSA COLLOQUIUM: "Electronic Gaming and Its  
Impact on Society"***

Omni Austin Hotel at Southpark in Austin,  
Texas. Visit <http://www.colloquium.us.mensa.org>  
for all the details and to register.

Instead of focusing on the "whats" of individual  
games, this Colloquium will consider our socie-  
tal obsession with electronic gaming, how we  
got to this point, and what the future could  
bring -- the "hows" and "whys," if you will. And  
the rock-bottom registration rate is only \$169  
through next Saturday, July 31!

Sponsored by the Mensa Foundation as an edu-  
cational outreach program, the weekend-long  
Colloquium event historically provides Mensans  
and the public alike the opportunity to gather  
with industry experts and researchers to dig  
deeper into socially relevant (and often contro-  
versial) topics.

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

For my August column, I asked attendees at the 2010 Mensa Annual Gathering (AG) in Dearborn what they enjoyed about the AG. Each sentence is from a different person.

Running tournaments. Mr. Mensa contestants. 1:00 a.m. Hunt for conies. Drinking the gay flag at Pretentious Drinking. Doc Harry and his presentation. Spontaneous SIGs like elevator SIG. Fireworks. Talks by Mensans and non-Mensans. Presentation of 50 years of Mensa and the gala. Delighted to reconnect with friends I haven't seen in a decade. People - new and old friends. Seeing my son thrive and fit in with other teens.

Anticipation of tonight's lingerie show. Getting out of the taxi and the first person I saw coming out of the hotel was an old friend. The week kept improving. Listening to the last surviving crewman of the Enola Gay and hearing his personal perspective. Beginning of the gala dance - all generations were dancing together and having fun. Being an answer in the Teen SIG scavenger hunt, which had the teens interacting with the adults. Feeling useful by sharing information during a discussion. It was really neat seeing the faces of people being recognized at the Awards Luncheon. I have had a difficult family situation for a while and have enjoyed being able to just hang out in hospitality and relax with fellow Mensans.

Coming across the world and being able to catch up with old friends and make new ones. Walking into hospitality after a long trip and seeing all the friendly faces and feeling that I've come home.

Being partnered with someone a third my age in a tournament and having a great time. As a newbie, sitting down at a table with a couple of people that I hadn't met and having such a good time that I forgot to go to the presentation. The free soda machine. I arrived after midnight, and there were hundreds of people in hospitality when I expected one or two people. Great party. Getting my 10th GOTYA. At my first AG, I only knew 3 people and now, ten years later, I know so many people. So many talented, creative people.

Volunteering in registration - enjoyed meeting first-timers. Impromptu sing-a-longs outside of hospitality with people drifting in and out. Camaraderie and lingerie. I've had several people come up to me this weekend and tell me that after hearing me talk at past gatherings that they remember me and thank me - that's thrilling to me. Holy shoot - only one! The improv get-together at Open Mic last night. Times up Tournament. SIGs, old friends. Vermont winning Group of the Year. Running into people that I had seen last year and they were happy to see me. People that I met. Becoming a Hell's M member. Getting the bid for the 2014 AG. Hot tub. As always, seeing old friends. Renewing old friendships. A math limerick (A dozen, a gross and a score; plus three times the square root of four; divided by seven plus five times eleven equals nine squared; and not a bit more). The anticipation of next year's AG in Portland, Oregon.

Enjoy your summer.  
- Lori

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## COMMENTARY

by Gerard Brooker

*"A Visit to Shangri-la"*

As a pre-trip to a recent visit to Tibet and Nepal, I went to the Royal Kingdom of Bhutan for a week. It is not without cause that this tiny country is referred to as the mythic Shangri-la, a remote and inaccessible place, where happiness is more important than materialism. Though it is not a country without problems, especially among the Nepalese minority, I was drawn to Bhutan when I read about the "Happiness Index" that informs its law-making process.

The only airport in the country is situated in Paro, a small city nestled in the Himalayas. I had heard that some of the pilots flying into the airport encourage their passengers with comforting words along the lines of, "You probably have never flown this close to a mountain before. We do it every day. It is our skill. Do not be afraid."

I was glad I knew this beforehand, as the wings of our jet came very close, I guess about twenty yards, to the mountain. I could see the landing strip as we wiggled through the valleys. Just as I thought the worst was over, two smaller humps appeared in front of us. We simply went up, down, up, and then finally down. Wheeee! It was like a roller coaster ride.

And, Yes, there is a Happiness Index. My guide, Tenzing, explained that when a new law is being discussed, their young king, the "Dragon King," the 5th in a hereditary monarchy that began in 1907, goes about the country talking with people in its remote parts about the law and how they think it might affect them. The country is relatively small - about one and a half million people - in a space the size of West Virginia. Most of the mountain roads are still unpaved and treacherous, one lane for both directions. Sometimes, it seemed to me, the drivers were rolling the dice.

Only 17,000 tourists visited the kingdom last year. It is difficult to get to, and the government charges each tourist \$300 U.S./day to visit. The fee includes room, board and a guide, so it is not

bad. But it is a set and flat fee, no exceptions for the less-fixed. There is a running feud between the government and its tourist industry about the regulated price. At the moment, the government is threatening to raise it by another \$40.00/day.

Maybe keeping strangers out is a way to allow the evident happiness to prevail. It is common to see children in the younger grades holding hands and singing songs while walking to school in the morning. Every student, from kindergarten to the end of secondary school, wears a uniform, always clean and neat looking. The children smile a lot in school. It is clear that they are respected and nurtured, and they did not lack confidence while asking me many questions about America. When I was in one of the elementary schools, a child of about six apparently hurt himself on the playground when I was talking with the principal. Several of the child's playmates came running to the principal and showed such concern that I thought surely a tragedy had taken place. It took only the reassuring hand of the principal on an invisible bump to heal the boy and bring back the smiles from his little pals.

I am aware that a few examples of care do not necessarily make a universe of concern. Yet, when the examples are a part of the fabric, they are to be noted. Each evening in the capital city of Thimphu, e.g., the news ends with a "Lost and Found" announcement. I watched for it on the night when the news was about a lost wallet. "A wallet belonging to Mr. (name announced) has been found. You can pick it up at (address)."

Another example: I spent a night in the tiny village of Phobjikha, celebrated in Bhutan (which, by the way, has cable T.V.) because it turns on the electricity for a few hours only each morning and evening. The reason? Its marshlands are a migratory stop for the black-necked cranes, and the townspeople are afraid that the electric current might harm the birds!

I was also taken by the graciousness of the many monks I met along the way. They live in what are

called dzongs, once full monasteries, now half shared with the government for administrative functions. I had a fun experience in one where I was allowed to enter a room filled with about forty teen-agers reading aloud together, a common part of their schooling. When I went in, they stopped reading and many of them began to run their fingers, first one hand, then the other, across their faces, while having a good collective laugh. When I asked Tenzing what that was all about, he said, "They think you look like a wrestler they watch on T.V."

In Gangtey I was allowed into one of their great old monasteries to see a significant ritual honoring an iconic monk who had recently died. I was told that he was the manifestation of the monk who had discovered the Buddhist "Relics" in the 7th century. About four hundred monks of every age were kneeling and chanting, others banging drums and cymbals, still more blowing horned instruments, while a few walked about wafting

incense. As I stood in the back watching the drama, an old monk took me by the arm and led me through the chanting men to the front to view the bier. He then took me behind the altar where a young monk gave me a red cord and a photo of the deceased. I was then led out. I learned that it would be a sign of respect to wear the cord around my neck for three weeks.

One of the last places I saw in Bhutan before flying to Kathmandu was Tenzing's home-town. I had a few hours to myself as he was visiting friends. I remember the outdoor tailor asking me to look at his infected big toe, the woman who gave me a piece of gum, the man who wanted his little daughter to say hi to the American, and the old lady who asked me to try the chili peppers.

The little town is called Haa. At first I thought it was a joke, but then I remembered that I was in the Royal Kingdom of Bhutan.

## **MENSA MIND GAMES 2010 RESULTS**

More than 200 Mensans gathered in San Diego this weekend for Mind Games 2010. During the three-day event, members played and rated 49 board and card games. The top five games have earned Mensa Select distinction and may use the Mensa Select seal on their games.

This year's winners are:

### **Anomia**

(Anomia Press, [www.anomiapress.com](http://www.anomiapress.com))

### **Dizios**

(MindWare, [www.mindware.com](http://www.mindware.com))

### **Forbidden Island**

(Gamewright, [www.gamewright.com](http://www.gamewright.com))

### **Word on the Street**

(Out of the Box Publishing, [www.otb-games.com](http://www.otb-games.com))

### **Yikerz!**

(Wiggles 3D Incorporated, [www.yikerzgame.com](http://www.yikerzgame.com))

Mind Games 2011 will be held April 15-17 in Albany, NY. Register for just \$55 through April 30, 2010 at [www.mindgames.us.mensa.org](http://www.mindgames.us.mensa.org)

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

Here we are in the midst of Summer; and, what do we do with all those vegetables that are coming on in our gardens. (Or, what do you do with all those vegetables that show up in the office because of the inveterate gardener that inhabits the cubicle next to you.) The Boss has a recipe that should solve these pressing problems, at least in the cucumber category. The result reminds me of the "new pickles" that could be found in old time delicatessens.

The wine this month is a 2009 Vinho Verde from Portugal. The brand name is "Gazela", produced by Sogrape Vinhos. Vinho Verde is a white wine from the North of Portugal. It literally translates as "Green Wine". This refers not to its color but to the fact that it is picked before full ripeness and should be consumed young. This wine is light, dry and effervescent with a citrus and slightly tart flavor. It is perfect for warm weather with only a 9% alcohol content. Of course, when I mentioned this last fact to a couple of our more sybaritic friends, they said that just meant that you could drink more. It retails for around \$7 to \$8 a bottle.

**MARINATED CUCUMBERS**

Ingredients:

6 to 8 cucumbers

1 cup vinegar

1/ 2-cup water

1/ 4-cup chopped parsley or dill

6 tablespoons sugar

1 teaspoon salt

1/ 4-teaspoon pepper

Peel and slice cucumbers very thin. Add remaining ingredients. Refrigerate for at least 2 hours before serving, although, it gets even better overnight. We generally halve this recipe for just the two of us.

*I hope that you will contact me with your comments and favorite wines at [jgrover@berk.com](mailto:jgrover@berk.com). I will be happy to share them with the broader Mensa group.*

*John Grover is a member of Mensa of Northeastern New York. He lives with his wife Sharon in the Hudson Valley of New York.*



## PUZZLES & QUESTIONS

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

1. What are the best ways to judge a person's health?
2. How many Zoroastrians are there in the world?
3. How should the money supply be defined?
4. What is the difference between a toxin and an allergen?
5. How much would it cost to send a three-person crew to the moon?
6. How many Supreme Court Justices did the U.S. Constitution originally provide for?
7. Name some diets from the 1950's and 1960's.
8. Which nation has the most islands?

### ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S PUZZLES:

2. What percentage of Connecticut's land is forest land?  
A: About 60%.
4. What percentage of criminal suspects waive their Miranda rights?  
A: About 80%, according to research done by R.A. White and C.G. Thomas in 1996. Researchers going through archives in Great Britain came up with a similar figure. In a lab experiment in 2004, Saul Kassin and a colleague tested suspects response to Miranda warnings. 59% of the suspects, 36% of the guilty and 81% of the innocent, waived their Miranda rights.
6. How many muscles are there in the human body?  
A: Anatomists disagree on what constitutes a distinct muscle. Some count as few as 639 muscles in the human body while some say there are as many as 850. Muscles are categorized in three types: 1) Skeletal or striated (because they are made of light and dark bands called fibrils.) We consciously use these to move the bones of the body. 2) Smooth muscles move internal organs. They are involuntary (sometimes called visceral) muscles controlled by the autonomous nervous system. They are not bundles of fibers like striated muscles are. 3) Cardiac muscles, which pump blood to and from the heart throughout the body. They are involuntary muscles.

**WORD CHECK**

Define these words. Check your answers below.

1. asseverate
2. bituminous -
3. crony -
4. declaim -
5. desuetude (DES- wi- tood, des'- wi- TOOD) -
6. gelid -
7. hobbledehoy -
8. neoteric -
9. obstreperous -noisy, unruly.
10. phalanx (FAY- langks, FAL- angks)
11. redact (ri - DAKT) -
12. suzerain (SOO- zuh- rin) -
13. syncretic -
14. syntax -
15. titivate -

1. asseverate - to declare earnestly and emphatically.
2. bituminous - made up of various flammable mixtures of hydrocarbons and other substances found in asphalts and tar. Bitumens occur naturally or are extracted from petroleum or coal.
3. crony - a close friend or companion; a chum.
4. declaim - 1. to speak or write in an oratorical or pompous style. 2. Make a formal speech.
5. desuetude - 1. disuse. 2. a legal principle that allows laws that have not been enforced or that are obsolete to elapse.
6. gelid -very cold, icy.
7. hobbledehoy - - an awkward, gawky bad-mannered young fellow.
8. neoteric - recent, modern.
9. obstreperous -noisily and stubbornly defiant; boisterous and unruly.
10. phalanx - 1. a body of close standing troops. 2. an organized group of persons, especially persons united for a common purpose.
11. redact - 1. to put into suitable literary form; revise; edit. 2. to draw up or frame (a statement or proclamation).
12. suzerain - 1. a state or nation that exercises political control over a dependent state. 2. a nation that controls another nation in international affairs but lets it manage its own domestic affairs. 3. a feudal overlord.
13. syncretic - uniting and blending together different systems, such as philosophy or morals.
14. syntax - the way in which words are put together to form phrases, clauses, or sentences.
15. titivate - to smarten up the appearance of a person or thing.

ANSWERS:

## NOTED & QUOTED

The creation of art is not the fulfillment of a need but the creation of a need. The world never needed Beethoven's Fifth Symphony until he created it. Now we could not live without it.

- Louis Kahn, (1901 - 1974), Estonian-American architect

Music is our fourth great material want - first food, then raiment, then shelter, then music.

- Christian Nevell Bovee, (1820 - 1904 ), U.S. lawyer, editor, author

It's not me. It's the songs. I'm just the post-man. I deliver the songs.

- Bob Dylan, (1941 - )

Behind every cloud is another cloud.

- Judy Garland, (1922 - 1969)

The artist must create a spark before he can make a fire and before art is born, the artist must be ready to be consumed by the fire of his own creation. - Auguste Rodin, (1840 - 1917), sculptor

People are experience rich and theory poor.

- Malcolm Gladwell, (1963 - ), British-born Canadian journalist and author

Liberation is not deliverance.

- Victor Hugo, (1802 - 1885)

Genius points the way; talent pursues it.

- Marie von Ebner-Eschenbach, (1830 - 1916), Austrian novelist,

Pleasure may come of illusion, but happiness can come only from reality.

- Nicolas Chamfort, (1741 - 1794), French epigrammist

The vanity of others runs counter to our taste only when it runs counter to our vanity.

- Friedrich Nietzsche, (1844 - 1900), *Beyond Good and Evil* (1885-86)

The only thing universal in communication is our inability to say exactly what we mean.

- Roy Blount, (1941 - ), U.S. humorist, reporter, actor, and writer, *New York Times Book Reviews*, 6/9/10

No matter what side of an argument you're on, you always find some people on your side that you wish were on the other side. - Jascha Heifetz, (1901 - 1987), Lithuanian-American violinist

Somebody has to have the last word. If not, every argument could be opposed by another and we'd never be done with it.

- Albert Camus, (1913 - 1969),

Nobody ever taught you to listen. They taught you to read. Reading is easy compared to listening. - Robert Scinto, CT Real Estate Developer, SCORE Greater Bridgeport and Lower Naugatuck Valley 20th anniversary Dinner, 1/28/10.

Learning is discovering that something is possible. - Fritz Perls, (1893 - 1970), German-American Gestalt psychiatrist, psychotherapist

I am a man for whom the outside world exists.

- Theophile Gautier, (1811 - 1872), French poet, dramatist, novelist, journalist, and literary critic

What distinguishes the historian from the collector of historical facts is generalization.

- Edward Hallett (E.H.) Carr, (1892 - 1982), British historian, journalist

Generalized history is a branch of speculation, connected (often rather arbitrarily and uneasily) with certain facts about the past.

- Aldous Huxley, (1894 - 1963), English Novelist.

History is a science, no more and no less.

- John Bagnell (J.B.) Bury, (1861 - 1927), Irish historian, classical scholar, and philologist

History is not factual at all, but a series of accepted judgments.

- Geoffrey Barraclough, (1908 - 1004), British historian

History has now been for the first time systematically considered, and has been found, like other phenomena, subject to invariable laws.

- August Comte, (1798 - 1857), French philosopher

"History" is a Greek word which means, literally, just "investigation." - Arnold Toynbee, (1889 - 1975)

It is not enough to be industrious; so are the ants. What are you industrious about?

- Henry David Thoreau, (1817 - 1862),

Some succeed because they are destined to, but most succeed because they are determined to.

- Anonymous

I try to leave out the parts that people skip.  
 - Elmore Leonard, (1925 - ), U.S. novelist, screenwriter

An erasure is a creative mark.  
 - Melanie Circle

Eat until you are seven-tenths full and save the other three-tenths for hunger.  
 - Chinese proverb

In the short run the market is a sorting machine. In the long run it's a weighing machine.  
 - Benjamin Graham, (1894 - 1976), U.S. investor

It is compassion rather than the principle of justice which can guard us against being unjust to our fellow men. - Eric Hoffer, (1902 - 1983), *The Passionate State of Mind* (1955)

Mankind is so fallen that no man can be trusted with unchecked power over his fellows. Aristotle said that some people were only fit to be slaves. I do not contradict him. But I reject slavery because I see no men fit to be masters.  
 - G.K. Chesterton, (1874 - 1936), *Present Concerns*

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