

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.



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.



TABLE OF CONTENTS

2	Schedule of Mensa Events	11	Word Check
4	RV Chat	12	Treasury Report
5	Good Wine Cheap		Mind Games Results
6	Campaign Statements		Chapter Notes
8	Puzzles	13	Member Advertisements
9	Noted and Quoted	14	List of Officers

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SCHEDULE OF CHAPTER EVENTS - APRIL

Friday, April 8, 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 or Rev. Bill Loring at 203-794-1389, fr.bill@comcast.net for more info on location and/or reservations.

Tuesday, April 12, 7:00 pm

Post Road Dinner

Kashmir Indian Kitchen, 388 Westport Ave, Norwalk, CT 06820. Contact Jim Mizera: jmizera@hotmail.com or (203) 522-1959 for reservations or info.

Saturday, April 16, 6:15 pm

Monthly Dinner

SPEAKER: Margaret Maunder will speak about her new book "Those Darn Lawyers A Law Client's Bottom-Up Report on the U.S. Civil Justice System." Ms. Maunder, a CT & Western Mass. Mensa member, has reported on events for two St. Louis dailies, covered events as a stringer in Europe and the Soviet Union, and dealt with legal problems as a business owner. She will talk about her experiences in achieving a landmark win against a major law firm; her fight with town hall over a building problem; her appearance before the state appellate court, and other struggles she has had with lawyers and the legal system. The Putnam House Restaurant, The Seelye Room, 12 Depot Place, Bethel (downtown - across from old railroad station), CT 06801 (theputnamhouse.com - Dinner Menu 1 - a vegetarian option is on the menu.). Dress is casual. We will try meeting in the bar

before dinners to encourage people to meet everyone. Meet in the bar 6:15 – 7:00 before the dinner, which will be held on the 2nd Floor Seelye Room. Dinner Menu 1 – a vegetarian option is included on the menu.) Before the presentation, we will enjoy dinner. There is parking in the rear of the restaurant and in the nearby Old Railroad Station lot. Contact Jim Mizera at jmizera@hotmail.com or (203) 522-1959 for reservations or info. Reservations are encouraged but not required. In case of severe weather, please call to confirm that the event is going on as scheduled.

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.

APRIL

1 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) at The Old Dublin, 171 Quinipiac Street, Wallingford, CT 06492, 203-949-8022, www.theolddublin.com From Route 15: Take exit 64 toward Wallingford/ Downtown, Sharp right at Quinipiac Street, At 0.3 miles turn left to stay on Quinipiac 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 Quinipiac Street (Wallingford center, just before the gazebo). The Old Dublin will be on your right within about two blocks.

7, 14, 21, 28 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

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

9 Saturday Time TBA

Mensa Admissions Testing

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 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 <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.

13 Wednesday 5:30 pm

Happy Hour in Branford

(ME, 2nd Wednesday) at Donovan's Reef 1212 Main Street, Branford CT. www.donovans-reef.com 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 where you will enter the 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. The lounge is on the left inside. I usually have a table reservation and will likely have an "M" sign visible. We start around 5:30. There are free daily bar goodies along with a comprehensive menu. Donovan's: 203-488-5573. We have a great time talking about anything and everything. Hope to see you there! Questions? Contact Mike Wilson at 203-481-2858 or MahoutMike@aol.com

17 Sunday 1:35 pm

Baseball

Come see the New Britain Rock Cats host the Portland Sea Dogs (Double-A Red Sox). Buy a general admission ticket (\$5), climb up to section 213, about four rows from the top, and join other Mensans for live baseball, jokes, and hot chocolate or beer (weather depending). More info? www.rockcats.com or contact Tom T. Tom.thomas@the-spa.com

22 Friday 5:00 pm

Fourth Friday Happy Hour

FHamden, CT We're moving the happy hour back to the Playwright in Hamden - better happy hour snacks. 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

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 Howard Brender at 860-635-5673 or howiebren@aol.com
Subject: Diner Dinner

30 Saturday 1:30 pm

WIGWAG: Mystic Aquarium

WIGWAG (Where I'd Go With A Group) to the Mystic Aquarium If we get a group of 10 or more, the entrance fee drops from \$26 to \$20, from \$20 to \$15 for kids. We should let them know we're coming, but don't need a final count til we show up. No special tour, but a sea lion show, special exhibit by Robert Ballard on wrecks & artifacts & a movie on undersea ecology, etc. are included. I can be in the lobby with a yellow balloon to meet people & we'll all go in together. We can follow up with an early dinner at a nearby family restaurant, 10 Clams, where we can discuss what we've seen & learned. RSVP to Ann Fitzgerald at 860-388-1893 or annelly@comcast.net for directions.

REGIONAL GATHERINGS

April 1 - 3, 2011

GREATER NEW YORK MENSA

REGIONAL GATHERING

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A WEEKEND OF GREAT SPEAKERS & HOSPITALITY, AN AMAZING GAMES ROOM, CONTESTS, TRIVIA, SATURDAY NIGHT DJ, WINE TASTING, AND SO MUCH MORE!

\$40 through 12/31/2010, \$50 through 3/31/2011

\$55 onsite for weekend, \$40 Saturday only

HOTEL RESERVATIONS: \$109/night S/D/T/Q

Call 1-800-227-6963 or 1-914-682-0050 or

www.crowneplaza.com/whiteplainsny

Use hotel registration code M12

Questions? Call RG Chair Vicki Goldberger (516)

935-1613 or vgoldberger@gmail.com

May 6-8

Cape Cod Mini-RG

Join us on beautiful Cape Cod for a relaxing weekend of socializing and hospitality. Enjoy great seafood, go whale watching, antiquing, bicycling or just sit back and listen to the ocean.

Register at: www.caperg.org

Adult registration is only \$45 and kids under 21 are \$1 per year of age. Hotel rooms are \$74.95 for 1-4 people until 3/31, then \$79.95. Make your reservations early as the Corsair and Cross Rip fill up fast. Hotel info/reservations: 800-345-5140.

Friday dinner and Saturday and Sunday breakfasts are included in the registration.

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

Have you renewed your membership? March 31st was the end of our membership year. You can renew on-line and if you are reading this before then, you need to renew by March 31 in order to be eligible to vote in the election. That's right; it is time for our biennial election season. Ballots and election materials will be mailed to you around April 15th. Ballots are due between April 15 and May 31st. Voting may be done online, which is how I do it. Review your ballot and the election material when you receive it. Some of the candidates have web-sites, some (including myself) have been participating in discussions on the Mensa Forums (Online Community). I'm enjoy being on the forums - some interesting discussions are going on, about Mensa and non-Mensan topics.

Spring may actually be here now, I've started doing yard cleanup and it feels good. Maybe this month I'll actually get some painting (indoor and outdoor) started. A freshly painted room gives me a new outlook on everything - a fresh start. Traditionally, we make resolutions for New Year's, but I personally find that making plans in the spring works better makes more sense to me. With the rebirth of the earth comes an incentive to change or recalibrate ourselves. Which would you rather do: make resolutions in the cold dark of winter or make plans in the bright light of springtime? Make a plan to spend some time with your friends in Mensa.

What's happening in Region 1: the first weekend of April is Greater New York Mensa's RG, Mind Games is being held in Albany in mid-April (a sold-out event, but there is a slight possibility of cancellations if you haven't reserved). And coming in May is Boston's Cape Cod Mini-RG (I'm handling hospitality). I'm always amazed at how many people will step forward at these events to help out. The best way to be involved and get to meet people is to approach someone (maybe the hospitality chair) and ask what you can do. Refilling candy and chip dishes, reloading the drink cooler and taking out the trash is a great way to make friends (okay, more likely to make friends with candy than the trash, but both are appreciated). There are lots of local events to choose from - dinners, lunches, games events, speaker meetings, bar nights, outdoor events, and whatever you want to include on the calendar. Enjoy your membership.

Lori J. Norris
RVC - 1

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

by John Grover "The good California wines are over-priced. There I've said it and I am not taking it back." As with most generalizations, there are many exceptions, but I believe that the statement is pretty close to being true about the Pinot Noirs from California. The 2004 movie Sideways had the same effect on Pinot Noir prices that a Middle East oil embargo has upon the price of gasoline. Fortunately, California does not have a monopoly upon the wine made from this grape. There are excellent Pinot Noirs produced in Oregon, Australia, New Zealand and of course, the mother country, Burgundy. And, we in the Northeast U.S. are blessed by some very good Pinot Noir made right here in Upstate New York.

The first wine this month is the 2008 Pinot Noir from Hosmer Vineyards of Cayuga Lake in New York's Finger Lakes region. This is a very refined red wine that starts with a nose of leather and cherry. It then produces dark cherry tastes with a rich balance of tannins in the mouth. This wine is reminiscent of a more old world style with nuances of earth and minerals throughout. It's available from the winery for \$15 a bottle. The second wine is the 2008 Pinot Noir from Brotherhood Winery in New York's Hudson Valley. This wine is a bit lighter in body and color than the first, but it has a distinctive berry nose and rich cherry and red currant taste. Clearly, this is a more new world style with the emphasis on the fruit. You can get it for between \$12 and \$15 a bottle.

SALMON WITH VODKA CREAM SAUCE**Ingredients:**

1 can low-sodium chicken broth
 3/4 lb. salmon filet
 2 tbsp. Olive oil
 7 or 8 plum tomatoes (or canned)
 3/4 cup chopped fresh basil (or 1/2 cup dried)
 1 large clove garlic, minced
 4 tbsp. light cream cheese
 2 oz. vodka
 2 1/2 cups cooked farfalle (butterfly) pasta
 (about 5 oz. uncooked)
 grated Pecorino Romano cheese
 salt and pepper to taste

In a large nonstick pan heat the chicken broth until it approaches boiling. Add the salmon fillet, cover the pan and poach for 10 to 15 minutes, or until firm. Remove the salmon to a plate and flake it. Reserve the chicken broth.

Heat the olive oil in the same skillet and sauté the tomatoes, basil and garlic. When they are cooked through, return about 1/2 to 3/4 of the broth to the pan then add cream cheese, stirring to blend. Season with salt and fresh ground pepper; then add vodka.

Place the salmon back in the pan and combine it with the sauce. If sauce is too thin, add more cream cheese. If too thick, add more broth. Serve over pasta and garnish with Pecorino.

I hope that you will contact me with your comments and favorite wines at 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.

CAMPAIGN STATEMENT

Dan Burg
for First Vice-Chair of American Mensa

Q1. What is your role as First Vice-Chair of American Mensa?

A1. As with so many other positions, the job is what the occupant makes of it. Various First Vice-Chairs have interpreted the same words differently over the years. "[A]ct as substitute during the Chairman's absence or inability to serve" - that's easy to discern. "In the case of vacancy in the office of Chairman . . . the [First Vice-Chair] shall move up" - that's easy to discern too. But what does "assist in the discharge of the Chairman's duties" mean? To me, it means that the Chairman and the First Vice-Chair should act as a team. I provide informal advice and historical perspective and act as a resource to the Chairman and to other individuals and to the AMC as a whole. I'm also currently on eight national committees, including two as chair, and gather member input on issues important to them.

An example of advice and historical perspective and resource rolled into one is that I offer to help AMC members write motions and help anybody write bylaws amendments, even if I don't agree with the substantive content of what it is I'm writing. I have helped several people this way both this term and in previous terms. The idea is that I want things to be both understandable and in keeping with technical requirements; if either of those is absent it can lead to trouble down the road. I believe all members should have the opportunity to have their proposals considered without being hampered by technical difficulties.

Q2. What challenges you most about the role?

A2. The role of First Vice-Chair is very broadly defined. The position's duties can vary widely from one administration to the next. The relationship between the Chairman and the First Vice-Chair is a key element. So, the biggest challenge is to see how I can be the most effective Number Two for the Chairman and the most helpful for the membership as whole. So far this term, the Chairman has called on me to do

many things in many areas. My wide-ranging background and long service on the AMC and in local group leadership positions have helped me immeasurably in this regard.

Representing American Mensa internationally is another important part of the First Vice-Chair's job. The First Vice-Chair traditionally serves as one of American Mensa's national representatives to Mensa International. The international board meeting last fall was my ninth, the most of anyone currently in the American delegation. Each has brought its own challenges, as have many of our discussions between meetings, but my experience has let me weather the challenges in ways that are beneficial to both American Mensa and international Mensa.

Q3. What issues do you believe American Mensa will face in the coming years with respect to this role?

A3. There might not even be a First Vice-Chair position in the future. Or maybe there will be one but with a different title, or maybe it will remain unchanged from what it is today. No one knows at this point. The Governance Task Force and the AMC are examining all aspects of American Mensa's governance structure. If a change in structure for the AMC is recommended, the First Vice-Chair role could be affected, either directly or as a result of other changes. One thing that won't change, though, is that someone has to be next in line if the chairmanship becomes vacant mid-term. The challenge is for the person who fills that position to fill it well. To me, that means that the person should have experience in many jobs at many levels - locally, nationally, internationally - in order to understand the many aspects of what he or she may be asked to do.

Q4. If you could improve one thing about American Mensa, regardless of area or responsibility, what would it be?

A4. As the saying goes, what you get out of Mensa depends on what you put into it. To go one step further, what all members get out of Mensa depends on what all members put into it. If we can find a way to make Mensa feel more useful to more members, to be a more important component in their lives, it would have a

huge effect throughout our organization. There are already many ways to be active: attend, organize, or host activities in your local group; attend events in other places, such as RGs, AGs, Colloquia, or Mind Games; participate online, whether in SIGs, forums, or otherwise; write articles or columns for your local newsletter or for national publications; read scholarship essays; play in CultureQuest; donate books for Project Inkslinger; be on a local or national committee; and the list goes on and on. But just giving members a list of ways to be active isn't the end of the story; we also have to find ways to make participation more comfortable and more accessible in order for more members to be active, and especially for them to take that initial plunge.

CAMPAIGN STATEMENT

*Jared Levine,
Candidate for AMC Secretary*

As the American Mensa Committee (AMC) Secretary, I will provide swift mini-minutes less than one week after AMC meetings so that the membership can keep abreast of the results of issues that were considered by the AMC. I will draft and make available Annual Business Meeting (ABM) minutes less than one month after the ABM is conducted. This will enable attendees to have a fresh recollection of what occurred and who said what, for attendees to provide any relevant suggestions for changes they might choose to submit well in advance of the subsequent year's ABM at which the minutes are voted on. Not only does the incumbent frequently take several weeks or longer to provide mini-minutes, she has also continued the practice of not providing draft ABM minutes until approximately a month before the meeting where they need to be approved, i.e., 11 months after the meeting they are recounting, when memories are hazy.

Not only do I differ from the current Secretary in the ways mentioned above, but we are also quite different in our views on some major policies. I have advocated ways to replace the Regional Vice Chairman (RVC) that would provide the full Regional membership a say; not only would electing an alternate simultaneously provide the membership that say, so would

Q5. On a more personal note, what is one of your more memorable or favorite moments in your time as an American Mensa member?

A5. That's an easy one! It's when I met Mensan Ember Skidmore and married her. (We have been married for nine years now and have two children, David and Aaron.) And though you didn't ask, my second favorite moment came at our wedding reception: Ten of the 84 guests at our wedding were Mensans. First my brother made a toast, then Ember's brother made one, then Russ Bakke stood up. He said, "Some of you are probably wondering who these Mensa people are. We are Dan and Ember's third family."

allowing a Special Election of the full Regional membership once a vacancy occurs.

The incumbent, however, voted in favor of allowing only Local Secretaries that vote when the measure was before the AMC ñ a measure which, to many, does not comply with NY state law. I have supported bylaw amendments that would give the AMC the ability, and even require them, to review the decisions of the National Hearings Committee when there is any sanction recommended, rather than just the mandatory review when expulsion or suspension is recommended. The incumbent has voted against such measures. I authored and championed the bylaws amendment approved by the membership in 2009, which set the National Ombudsman's term of office at six years and revamped the procedure by which he is chosen. The incumbent favored changing that procedure before the inaugural election of the National Ombudsman was even finished.

Look at my blog - <http://boxmasterscorner.blogspot.com> - to see my views on other matters that have come before the AMC and even on local Metropolitan Washington Mensa matters. Also feel free to write me with your questions.

Sincerely,
Jared Levine, LocSec
Metropolitan Washington Mensa
Candidate for AMC Secretary
locsec@mwm.us.mensa.org

PUZZLES & QUESTIONS

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

1. How many passwords do you have?
2. What percentage of coffee sold in the United States is decaffeinated?
3. What are the most common mistakes new fast growing companies make?
4. What percentage of the world's electricity is produced by nuclear power?
What percentage of Connecticut's electricity is produced by the Millstone nuclear plant?
5. What is the best training ground for actors?
6. How many calories are there per gram of fat? Per gram of carbohydrate?
7. What are the best types of bread?
8. Estimate the population of these U.K. cities: London, Glasgow, Liverpool, Birmingham, Newcastle.

PUZZLES & QUESTIONS ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S PUZZLES:

2. What percentage of the world's fresh water is in glaciers?

A: About 75%.

4. Who was the first Little League baseball player to make it to the major leagues?

A: Joey Jay in 1953. Born Joseph Richard Jay in Middletown, Connecticut in 1935, he played first base in the new Middletown Little League when he was 12 years old. He became a pitcher and excelled at Woodrow Wilson High School and in American Legion ball. Right after graduation, the 17-year old Jay signed a contract with the Milwaukee Braves, making him one of the first baseball "bonus babies". His bonus was \$40,000. Under the rules of the time, the Braves had to keep him on the major league roster for two full years in order to retain him. So Jay was on the Braves roster for two years even though he played very little. After this, he

was sent to the minor leagues until he worked his way back up to the major leagues in 1958. Jay had his ups and down with the Braves until he was traded to the Cincinnati Reds before the 1961 season. Jay had his best season with the Reds, winning 21 games in both 1961 and 1962, and helped Cincinnati make it to the World Series in 1961. Jay pitched in the majors through 1966. For his career in the major leagues, Jay won 99 games, lost 91, recorded a 3.77 earned run average (ERA), and struck out 999 batters in 1546 innings. After baseball, he became a successful businessman, owning an oil drilling company that had 75 - 100 wells, as well as a construction company, and other businesses.

6. What percentage of money on gift cards goes unused?

A: 10%.

NOTED & QUOTED

Exasperation is the mother of invention.

- Anonymous

If there is a sense of reality, there must also be a sense of possibility.

- Robert Musil, (1880 - 1942), Austrian novelist

The only antidote to mental suffering is physical pain.

- Karl Marx, (1818 - 1883)

A stereotyped but unconscious despair is concealed even under what are called the games and amusements of mankind.

- Henry David Thoreau, (1817 - 1862)

Where does one go from a world of insanity? Somewhere on the other side of despair.

- T S Eliot, (1888 - 1965)

We think therefore we despair.

- Anonymous

Pity is for the living, envy is for the dead.
- Mark Twain, (1835 - 1910), Following the Equator

There is no witness so terrible, no accuser so powerful as conscience which dwells within us.

- Sophocles, (496? 495 - 406 B.C.E.), ancient Greek dramatist

Indifference is the essence of inhumanity.

-George Bernard Shaw, (1856 - 1950)

Eloquence is a painting of the thoughts.

- Blaise Pascal, (1623 - 1662)

False eloquence is exaggeration; true eloquence is emphasis.

- William R. Alger, (1822 - 1905), U.S. theologian

A character is a completely fashioned will.

- Novalis (Georg Philipp Friedrich Freiherr von Hardenberg), (1772 - 1801), German Romantic novelist, poet, philosopher

The faculty of voluntarily bringing back a wandering attention, over and over again, is the very root of judgment, character, and will.

- William James, (1842 - 1910)

Weak eyes are fondest of glittering objects.

- Thomas Carlyle, (1795 - 1881)

A daydream is an evasion.

- Thomas Merton, (1915 - 1968), Trappist monk, poet, and author

Dreams have only one owner at a time. That's why dreamers are lonely.

- Erma Bombeck, (1927 - 1996)

Dreaming is a light pastime, of fortune more golden than gold.

- Aeschylus, (525 - 456 B.C.E.), The Libation Bearers

The most original thing a writer can do is write like himself. It is also his most difficult task.

- Robertson Davies, (1913 - 1995), Canadian novelist

There are only two or three human stories, and they go on repeating themselves as fiercely as if they had never happened before.

- Willa Cather, (1876 - 1947), U.S. novelist

If you become a learner you will encounter the greatest teachers.

- Steve Stimson

History was a trash bag of random coincidences torn open in a wind.

- Joseph Heller, (1923 - 1999), U.S. novelist, Good as Gold

History, if thoroughly comprehended, furnishes something of the experience which a man would acquire who should be a contemporary of all ages and a fellow citizen of all peoples.

- Joseph Roux, (1834 - 1905), French Catholic priest, poet, and philologist

To a brave man, good and bad luck are like his left and right hand. He uses both."

- St Catherine of Siena, (1347 - 1380), Italian nun, Scholastic philosopher

A kind word is like a spring day.

- Russian proverb

Who looks outside, dreams; who looks inside, awakes.

- Carl Jung, (1875 - 1961)

It is not the meaning of life that we seek but rather the experience of being alive.

- Joseph Campbell, (1904 - 1987), U.S. mythologist, writer

We cannot put off living until we are ready.

- Ortega y Gasset, (1883 - 1955), Spanish philosopher and politician

The important thing is not what they think of me, it is what I think of them.

- Queen Victoria, (1819 - 1901)

A gentleman need not know Latin, but he should at least have forgotten it. - Brander Matthews, (1852 - 1929), U.S. writer, professor of Dramatic Literature

I really didn't say everything I said.

- Yogi Berra, (1925 -)

Greg Maddux could put a baseball through a Life Saver if you asked him.

- Joe Morgan, (1943 -), baseball Hall of Fame player, broadcaster, executive

Life is both giving and receiving.

- Mohawk proverb

Saskatchewan is much like Texas - except it's more friendly to the United States.

- Adlai Stevenson, (1900 - 1965)

I do not understand the world, but I watch its progress.

- Katherine Ann Porter, (1894 - 1980), U.S. author

Technology changes all the time, human nature hardly ever.

- Evgeny Morozov, Belarusian scholar, editor, columnist, 'The Dark Side of Internet Freedom', 2011

They wage unnecessary war in which each side loses much that it originally possessed.

- Mark van Doren, (1894 - 1972), Liberal Education, "The Liberal Arts", 1943

A person remains immature, whatever his age, as long as he thinks of himself as an exception to the human race.

- Harry Overstreet, (1875 - 1970), philosopher, author

There's no point in success if you don't let it go to your head. That's what it's for.

- John Otway, (1952 -), English singer, songwriter

A biography is considered complete if it merely accounts for six or seven selves, whereas a person may well have as many as a thousand.

- Virginia Woolf, (1882 - 1941), English novelist and critic

I see at last that all the knowledge I wrung from the darkness - that the darkness flung me - is worthless as ignorance: nothing comes from nothing, the darkness from the darkness. Pain comes from the darkness and we call it wisdom. It is pain. - Randall Jarrell, (1914 - 1965), U.S. poet, novelist, essayist, critic, "90 North"

WORD CHECK

Define these words. Check your answers at right.

1. adventitious -
2. affray -
3. allegro (uh- LAY- gro, uh- LEG- roh) -
4. incubus -
5. ineluctable (in- i- LUHK- tuh- buhl) -
6. isomer -
7. legume (LEG- yoom) -
8. lissome (LIS- uhm) -
9. lucubrate (loo'- kyoo- BRAYT) -
10. parturition (pahr- too- RISH- uhn) -
11. pate -
12. phaeton -
13. ranee (RAH- nee, rah- NEE) -
14. reagent -
15. recrudescant -

1. adventitious - associated with something by chance; not intrinsic to the subject; accidental-ly or casually acquired; foreign.
2. affray - a noisy quarrel; a public fight; brawl; disturbance.
3. allegro - brisk in tempo; lively (Musical term).
4. incubus - something that worries, disturbs, or oppresses one greatly, like a nightmare or haunting obsession.
5. ineluctable - inescapable; incapable of being avoided; inevitable.
6. isomer - any of two or more compounds, radicals, or ions that contain the same number of atoms of the same elements but differ in structural arrangement and properties.
7. legume - a herbaceous plant, shrub, tree, or vine that has compound leaves, clusters of irregular, keeled flowers, and fruit in the form of a pod splitting along both sides. EX: beans, peas, acacia, alfalfa, clover, indigo, lentil, mesquite, mimosa, and peanut.
8. lissome - supple; lithe; agile; nimble.
9. lucubrate - to work or study laboriously, especially at night.
10. parturition - childbirth.
11. pate - the crown or top of the head.
12. phaeton - 1. a light four-wheeled carriage. 2. a convertible sedan.
13. ranee - 1. the wife of a rajah. 2. a reigning queen or princess.
14. reagent - a substance that causes a chemical reaction, especially one used for chemical synthesis and analysis.
15. recrudescant - breaking out again into renewed activity; revived.

ANSWERS:

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)

Dizios (MindWare, www.mindware.com)

Forbidden Island (Gamewright, www.gamewright.com)

Word on the Street (Out of the Box Publishing, www.otb-games.com)

Yikerz! (Wiggles 3D Incorporated, 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

The 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)

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Fiscal Year: April 1 - March 31

Opening balance at 4/1/10 \$9530.71

INCOME

American Mensa
 Local Group Support Funds: \$1,907.37
 Chronicle Advertising Income \$126.00
 Total Income \$2,033.37

EXPENSES

Chronicle Printing Expenses: \$607.90
 Chronicle Postage/Supplies: \$421.08
 Speakers Dinners: \$262.55
 TOTAL EXPENSES: \$10,272.55

3RD Q BALANCE on 12/31/10: \$10,272.55

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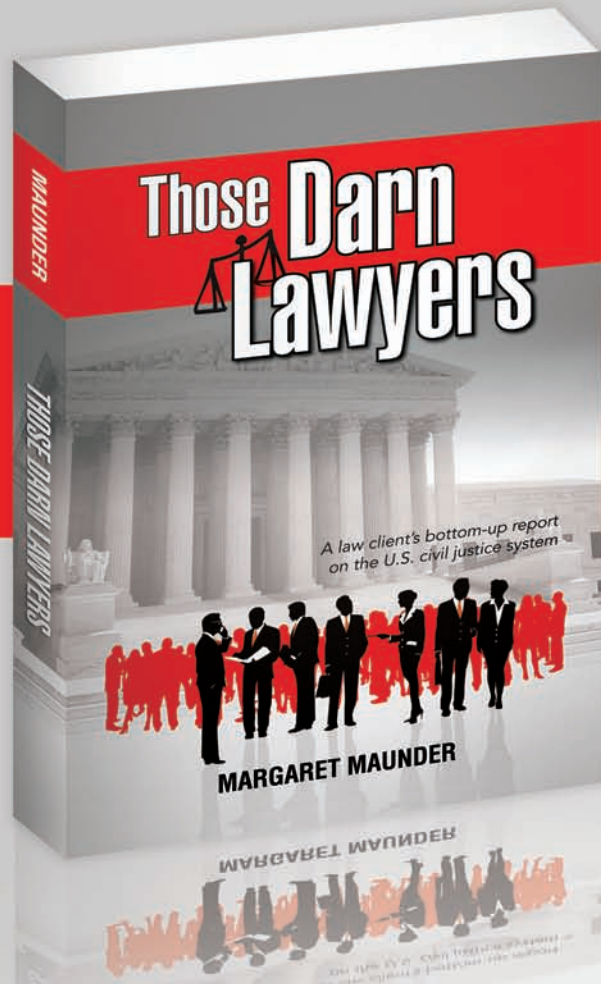
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Those Darn Lawyers

By Margaret Maunder

It's a book like no other
—a law client's bottom-up report on
the world of law and lawyers, courtrooms and judges



QUESTIONS LIKE THOSE AT LEFT led the Peabody Award journalist to write a book telling of her encounters with lawyers and judges.

Pursing her rights pro se, she took one case up to her state's appellate court, with disturbing results.

The author supplements her personal narrative with well-documented revelations about our common law legal system and day-to-day happenings in U.S. courts.

She quotes authorities—law professors to Supreme Court justices—commenting on a system which produces 90 million lawsuits a year. An eminent lawyer says it is “out of control.”

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Those Darn Lawyers is not a how-to manual, but its dos and don'ts can help readers get a handle on client-lawyer issues and smooth their way through tangles of the American civil justice system.

Had problems with lawyers?

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Margaret Maunder wrote for two St. Louis dailies, then became a stringer for the Post Dispatch, in Europe.

She covered events in the Soviet Union and went to South America with a World Health Organization field trial. Back home, as

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