

SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT MENSA CHRONICLE



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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.

SCHEDULE OF CHAPTER EVENTS - NOVEMBER

Friday, November 9, 7:00 pm

Danbury Dinner - Southern Connecticut and Connecticut/Western Massachusetts Joint Dinner

at 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@com-cast.net for info on location and/or reservations.

Saturday, November 17, 6:15 pm

Monthly Dinner

TOPIC: Raising Intelligence. What if anything can be done to raise the intelligence of people, especially children? Are there exercises or programs that can strengthen raw thinking ability?

WHERE: The PUTNAM HOUSE Restaurant, 12 Depot Place, Bethel, CT 06801 (downtown - across from old railroad station), (www.theputnamhouse.com). The dinner will be held on the 2nd Floor. Dinner Menu 1 - a vegetarian option is included on the menu.) Dress is casual. 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 strongly encouraged but not required.

CONNECTICUT AND WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS CHAPTER UPCOMING EVENTS

This is not a complete listing WE - Weekly Event, ME - Monthly Event, YE - Yearly Event

NOVEMBER

1, 8, 15, 29 Thursdays 6:30 pm

Scrabble

The word-loving Mensans (are there any other kind?) and non-Mensans gather to play Scrabble at Panera Bread Restaurant at Bishop's Corner, 2542 Albany Ave., West Hartford. For more info contact Lois Cappellano 413-567-4702

2 Friday 5:30 pm

Happy Hour in Wallingford

(ME, 1st Fridays) Ann Polanski (contact her at

Admitted in CT, NY & OR

Sharon Oberst DeFala, Esq.
GENERAL PRACTICE OF LAWLaw Offices
Gary Oberst
A Professional Corporation
111 East Avenue
Norwalk, CT 06851Office (203) 866-4646
Home (203) 852-9571
Fax (203) 852-1574
sharon@oberstlaw.com203-269-4565 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.

11 Sunday 11:30 am

Ethnic Dine-Around, Waterbury

Ethnic Dine-Around does another winner! This time we do Portuguese at Lisboa Restaurant, 19 Lafayette St, Waterbury, CT. You can savor creations such as Paelha † Valenciana (Paella), Mariscada † Moda da Casa (shellfish casserole), Bife † Portuguesa (steak in a clay pot with fries, egg & ham), Carne de Porco † Alentejana (pork & littleneck clams), or you can view the entire menu here:

<http://www.lisboarestaurant.com/menu.pdf> If you click on any menu item, you can even see a picture of the incredibly enticing looking dish.

Directions: I-84 East or West, Exit 19 to Rte 8 South. Take Exit 30 on Washington Ave, bear Left and follow Washington Ave, 2nd Right on Lafayette, Lisboa is on the Left. These directions also work if you are coming down Rte 8 South from Torrington. If traveling up Rte 8 from Bridgeport, also take Exit 30, then turn Right at the first traffic light onto Washington Ave, then right on Lafayette as above. Or call the restaurant at (203) 754-0789.

I've been told this is one of the best

Portuguese restaurants in CT. However, it is very small, very popular, and they do not take reservations! So we must arrive promptly at 11:30. Send Barb Holstein your RSVP so I can save you a seat (if possible).

14 Wednesday 5:30 pm

Shoreline Happy Hour

(ME, 2nd Wednesday) at Donovan's Reef 1212 Main Street, Branford Conn. 06405. The Donovan's Reef 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. 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 any items that you may want to order from the comprehensive menu. Donovan's phone number is 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

15 Thursday 6:30 pm

Pioneer Valley Dinner

(ME, 3rd Thursday) True to form, this month's Pioneer Valley Third Thursday Social Dinner will be at 6:30 pm on May 17th. Not true to form, however, the dinner this month will be a potluck instead of going to a restaurant. We will be hosted by Leslie Schaefer, who is generously sharing her lovely home in Westhampton, Mass. Barely 20 minutes west of Northampton, it boasts a huge deck and a 65-mile view to Mt. Monadnock. Email her at leslie@chmetal.com for directions, and to coordinate what you'll be bringing. You should also bring your own adult beverages, should you be so inclined. As always, new members and guests are encouraged to attend this always friendly and interesting event. We hope to see you there!

23 Friday 5:30 pm

Fourth Friday Happy Hour

Playwright Pub and Restaurant, 1232 Whitney Ave., Hamden, [tp://www.playwrightirishpub.com](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

CORRECTIONS -

October Mensa Chronicle

In the October 2012 issue of the Southern CT Mensa Chronicle, the ending of the report on the October Monthly Dinner ("A Visit to Mongolia", pg. 8) misreported a statistic speaker Jerry Brooker presented. The article stated "The transition for Mongolia's youth may not be easy. Jerry said that the young boys seem extremely unsocial, similar to the youngsters he saw in isolated tribes in the Arctic. The struggle between tradition and change may be unsettling or alienating Mongolian young men. According to one statistic he heard, Jerry said that one in seven teenage Mongolian boys commit suicide."

The one in seven suicide figure does not apply to Mongolian teenagers but to teenage boys in isolated Arctic tribes. Jerry reported the number correctly in his talk, but the article incorrectly attributed the statistic to Mongolian youth.

REGIONAL VICE CHAIR CHAT

Andrew Heffernan
Regional Vice-Chairman
U.S. Mensa, Region 1

We ended the month at 51,116 members compared to last year 51,319 - that's a mere .4% below last year the same time. New members and reinstatements were ahead of last year. Overall new members are up 47% over last year - to date!!!! (That deserves the extra exclamation points.)

Mind Challenge month - we had 71 groups (nationally) sign up to participate (that's more than last year's Brilliant month) and the promotion packets were mailed last week. Groups can still sign up to participate but don't get the fabulous promotional kit. We have additional promotional and advertising support for the October Testing effort that will be rolled out this month.

Local Groups participating in the Foundation's scholarship program have also increased over last year, with many new changes in how the program is administered.

As part of the annual report to Mensa International, we put this list together of the various communications vehicles we "publish." I thought you all might find it enlightening.

Member Communications: In addition to our primary communication with all members - The Mensa Bulletin - we have more than 10 other electronic publications that members (and in some cases non-members) can subscribe to. This includes:

- Weekly Brainwave -- a collection of timely articles and links to information and publications that inform, intrigue and captivate Mensa members, candidates and prospects.
- Fred! -- a literary-style publication for youth Mensa members periodically distributed in an online magazine format.
- InterLink - a monthly e-newsletter that serves as a channel of communication among national and local officers and other interested members and to help those interested in honing their leadership skills.
- AML Today - a monthly e-newsletter that

keeps local group officers and volunteers informed about organizational news, upcoming deadlines, projects and issues.

- Events Register - quarterly e-newsletter highlighting upcoming events.
- Foundation News - quarterly e-newsletter to inform donors and supporters of the Mensa Foundation.
- CultureQuestion of the Day - a daily trivia-style question sent via email, with the answer provided in the following day's email.
- Prospect Advisor - a six-issue monthly series of e-newsletters intended to remind prospective members of what benefits and opportunities are available in Mensa.
- Bright - Foundation-sponsored "edutainment" e-newsletter with news, puzzles and games for smart kids (members and non-members).
- Bulletin Update -- sent 10 times a year, this e-newsletter hits members' inboxes just before the printed Mensa Bulletin is delivered, highlighting magazine content and expanding upon the printed version.
- Proctor Update -- set to relaunch in September, this quarterly e-newsletter aggregates relevant organizational news, tips, deadlines and reminders for Mensa's Proctors and Testing Coordinators.
- MFK Update -- a quarterly e-newsletter that informs interested members and the public about recent updates and additions to the Mensa For Kids Web site.
- Marketing Sparks -- periodic blast email helps Local Groups and American Mensa reach marketing and public relations goals together through an exchange of information, tips and ideas.

As part of the post AG media wave, the Reno PBS station will be airing a full program (20 minutes) later this month on Mensa and the Annual Gathering. Once it airs we'll be sure to publish links so you may watch online.

The video game American Mensa Academy launched in July via Steam (online download). It will be in stores with the Wii and Nintendo DS versions in October in time for the holiday sales push.

Andrew Heffernan
 518-788-0019
 rvc1@us.mensa.org

THE OCTOBER DINNER

THE MALCOLM BALDRIGE NATIONAL QUALITY AWARDS

October was World Quality Month and to mark the occasion at our monthly dinner, Southern CT Mensa President Debra Jennings gave a presentation about the Malcolm Baldrige Quality Awards for Performance Excellence. These awards recognize U.S. companies and non-profit organizations that have excelled in quality control, satisfying customers, and innovating. Debra had a Power Point presentation that outlined the awards and we watched her slides on the restaurant's high-definition television. This was the first time we were able to take advantage of this technology, but it worked very well and we will use it again at our meetings.

Congress established the Baldrige awards in 1987 to recognize U.S. companies for their achievements in quality and raise awareness about its importance in gaining a competitive edge. The Department of Commerce's National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) gives the awards annually after reviewing thousands of applications.

The awards are named after the late Malcolm Baldrige, a resident of Connecticut who worked as the U.S. Secretary of Commerce from 1981 - 1987. He advocated quality management as a key to U.S. prosperity and helped draft the legislation that became the Quality Improvement Act of 1987 that led to the awards. After Baldrige died in a rodeo accident, Congress named the awards in his honor.

Deb has first-hand experience with the awards as an examiner. She got involved in the 1980s when the awards were first starting out, and then, after a decade working overseas as a manager in Great Britain, she came back to our country to work in the investment field and resumed serving as an examiner for the Baldrige Awards. She is one of the many volunteers who work as examiners for the program, all of whom are screened and undergo thorough training in evaluating applications.

RUNNING THE GAUNTLET

"Why are we talking about the Baldrige awards?" Deb asked, and then offered several good reasons

for knowing about the awards. First of all, it is a national competition and so it examines a wide range of U.S. organizations, profit and non-profit, that strive to meet rigorous standards for excellence. So studying the winners can help us improve our own performance and that of companies we work for. If we look at the winners, we can identify some key ideas and common patterns in their success and apply them in our own workplaces. We can also learn lessons that help us judge the customer service we get as consumers. Additionally, the Baldrige winners can provide us with investment ideas. Finally, analyzing the award winners is intellectually interesting. We can ask what's different about the winners. What makes them tick? We can ask, as Deb suggested, "What are the core values of excellent companies." In short, managers, workers, customers, investors, and anyone who is curious can learn a lot from the program.

Organizations applying for the Baldrige Award must submit an extensive application and evidence of their achievements, a job that requires hundreds of hours or more of work. First, they must step is the submission of an Eligibility Certification Package, usually due in March or April. Second, they submit an Award Application Package, usually due in May. Then they must go through several rounds of evaluation, each of which filters out many of the competitors.

As Deb made clear, the Baldrige's four-step review is one that scrutinizes organizations up and down. First, they are reviewed independently by at least six Baldrige examiners. If the applicant does not meet a qualifying score to make this first cut, the examiners give them a consolidated evaluation report noting strengths and weaknesses.

Organizations that score high enough move on to the next round, where a team of examiners discuss and score the candidate. Once again, the companies or organizations must meet a threshold score for advancing to the next round. If they fail to, they receive a feedback report based on the consensus review. Applicants that score well receive a site visit from a team of examiners. The team investigates the applicant's claims and submits a site visit report to the Panel of Judges. Next, the Panel convenes, reviews, and discusses

each organization visited and recommend which ones, if any, will receive the Award. Finally, the Department of Commerce examines the reports made by the Panel of Judges and the fitness of the candidates. The examiner team that made the site visit produces an audit report that is sent to the applicant.

Organizations are rated using seven criteria, each of which is given a weighting. The standards and their respective weights are: 1. Leadership (120 pts.), 2. Strategic Planning (85 pts.), 3. Customer Focus (85 pts.) , 4. Measurement, Analysis, and Knowledge Management (90 pts.), 5. Workforce Focus (85 pts.), 6. Operations Focus (85 pts.), 7. Business Results (450 pts.), giving a total maximum score of 1,000 points.

Debra emphasized that organizations applying for the award have to demonstrate that they are learning organizations - that they learn from mistakes, learn from employees, learn from customers, and learn from the marketplace. It's not enough to do things right, it's necessary to adapt when things aren't going right. Companies must, as she said, not just put out fires but anticipate where and when fires can occur.

Organizations can't just take a defensive posture, however, because the Baldrige program judges them on innovation as well. Moreover, they have to be able to measure their performance in learning, quality control, and innovation and show that they can sustain improvements. As you can see from the big weighting given to results, it is more than just a theoretical exercise.

THE WINNERS

The Department of Commerce can name up to three winners in each category. Deb noted that past winners have included some big names, such as Boeing and Fed Ex, but many not-so-big names as well, such as MESA Products, Pro-Tec Coating Company, North Mississippi Medical Center, and Montgomery County Public Schools. The 2011 Baldrige Awards were a little bit unusual because three of the four winners were healthcare companies. The winners were Concordia Publishing, St. Louis, Mo. in the non-profit category, and Henry Ford Health, Detroit,

Mich., Schneck Medical Center, Seymour, Ind., and Southcentral Foundation, Anchorage, Alaska in health care.

THE BENEFITS

How do Baldrige award-winners do after garnering the award? Well, it's clear that winning a prize is no fluke. As Debra pointed out, the winners generally live up to it. She cited figures showing that manufacturers who have won the Baldrige award have seen a 48% rise in revenue through 2010, far exceeding the performance of their competitors. Because of the positive publicity, the winners have been able to attract more applicants for jobs and made notable decreases in employee turnover and greater workforce productivity, engagement, and achievement.

The benefits of the awards spill over to other companies, non-profits, and schools. Since the award winner's stories and profiles are made public, it encourages sharing of best practices across industries. It may motivate other companies to get involved in the program because just applying for the Baldrige Award forces a company to review its performance and the criticism they get from the examiners is like getting a thorough audit from consultants who have scrutinized some of the best organizations in the nation. Even if they don't get beyond the first round, applicants get a valuable objective report confirming where they have succeeded and telling them where they have room for improvement.

You can find out how the winners achieved their success by going to the website at www.nist.org/baldrige.org and ordering a report. You also can get a closer look at the Baldrige award by contacting your local Baldrige-based program, attending a Baldrige conference, participate in an award recipient sharing day, or even becoming an examiner.

IN NOVEMBER: At our November dinner, we will discuss the topic of raising intelligence. Make your reservation today by contacting Jim Mizera at jmizera@hotmail.com or (203) 522-1959.

PUZZLES & QUESTIONS

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

1. What was the best radio drama show?
2. How many towns are there in California? How many of them have more than 100,000 people?
3. What are some similarities and differences between skydiving and deep-sea diving?
4. When was Roget's Thesaurus first published?
5. Give some examples of when you found a needle in a haystack.
6. How long is a day on earth?
7. What was the turning point of the U.S. Civil War?
8. What is the ratio of men to women in the world?
9. Name some factories that have been successfully converted to homes.
10. What are the main differences between alligators and crocodiles?
11. What technologies will break into the mass market in 2013?
12. In the U.S., what is the most common blood type?
13. What is the most overused metaphor?
14. What is the record for most fumbles in a National Football League (NFL) game by one team? By one player? By both teams?

PUZZLES & QUESTIONS ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S PUZZLES:

ERRATA: In the October 2012 Southern CT Mensa Chronicle Puzzles and Questions section, the answer given to Question 8 was wrong. The question back in the September issue was "How many airline pilots are there in the United States?" It meant to ask about the number of commercial airline pilots, but even so the answer given in the October issue, 93,000, was too low.

A more accurate figure for the number of U.S. airline transport pilots (ATPs), provided by the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA, www.aopa.org), is 142,650 (2011). The AOPA reports a total of 618,660 pilots in the U.S., a figure that includes commercial, private, sport, and student pilots as well as ATPs.

Thanks go to a Darien reader for pointing out the error.

2. How many national parks are there in the U.S.? How many state parks are there?

A: There are 58 national parks in the United States. According to the National Association of State Park Directors, there are 6,624 state

parks in the U.S. The first national park established in the world was Yellowstone National Park, in 1872.

According to the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), as of 2006, there were 6,555 national parks worldwide. Europe has 359 national parks.

4. How many soldiers fought in the Battle of Waterloo? How many died?

A: The Battle of Waterloo took place about eight miles (12 km.) from the city of Brussels, Belgium. Historians differ in their estimates of the fighting forces, but a common estimate is that Napoleon's army had about 69,000 men. Two armies fought against Napoleon. The Duke of Wellington led a coalition force of about 67,000 British, Dutch, and German soldiers. The Prussian forces, led by Gebhard Leberecht von Blücher, numbered about 45,000, making the total number of soldiers about 181,000.

continued on next page

It is usually estimated that about 47,000 soldiers died at Waterloo - 25,000 Frenchmen and 22,000 Allied soldiers.

6. Where does Connecticut rank among the 50 states in area, population size, and population density?

A: According to the 2010 U.S. Census, Connecticut is 48th among the states in area (5,543 sq. mi., 14,36 sq. km.), 29th in population (3,575,000), and 4th in population density (739 people / sq. mi., 285.4 / sq. km.).

8. What are the differences between bison and buffaloes?

A: The bison, which resides in the U.S., Canada, Mexico, and Europe, have a big, shaggy head, a short curved horns, and a broad, high hump above muscular shoulders. They are up to six and one-half feet tall, ten feet long, and weigh more than two tons.

Buffaloes live in southern Asia or in the African wild. They lack the big, shaggy head and the muscular shoulders and high hump

of the bison. They are taller and have bigger horns, however. southern Asian water buffalo has big horns that curve upwards and in, while the African cape buffalo has long horns that curve backward. Water buffaloes are up to ten feet long and seven feet tall and weigh about two and one-half tons. The cape buffaloes are smaller -shorter (about 5.5 feet tall), slightly longer (about 11 feet), and lighter (one to tow tons).

10. How many major league baseball batters have hit for the natural cycle - a single, double, triple, and homer in sequence - in a game?

A: Only 13 major league batters have hit for the natural cycle in a game. Only 4 hitters have hit for the reverse natural cycle (home run, triple, double, and then a single).

12. About what percentage of the world's agricultural production does the U.S. produce (by value)?

A: 4.3%.

WORD CHECK

See if you can define these root-words.

- 1. acu - 8. pet - strive towards. Exs: appetite, compete.
- 2. cephal - 7. - orn - decorate. Exs: ornament, ornate, adorn.
- 3. cord - 6. laps - slip, slide. Exs: lapse, elapse, collapse, relapse.
- 4. ep- or epi- 5. fug - flee. Exs: centrifuge, refuge, fugitive.
- 5. fug - 4. ep- or epi - upon. Exs: epicenter, epitaph, epoch.
- 6. -laps - 3. cord - heart. Exs: accord, concord, cordial.
- 7. -orn - 2. cephal - head. Exs: cephalic, cephalopod, encephalogram.
- 8. pet - 1. acu - sharp. Exs: acute, acupuncture.

ANSWERS:

LOOKING AT GAMES

Recommended Two-Player Games by Deb Jennings

I pick up some good ideas for new games at Mensa Regional Gatherings (RGs). In fact, all of the games listed below I either played at the recent CT & Western Massachusetts RG a few weeks ago, or will be bringing to the Boston RG in early November (Fri. – Sun., NOVEMBER 2 - 4, 2012, Dedham, Mass. Check the Regional Gatherings Section in the Schedule of Mensa Events. Hope to see you there!)

I enjoy playing with a group, but sometimes it's nice to have a few reliable games for two on hand. Below I've selected three games that I recommend that are easy to learn, require minimal set up, involve strategic thinking, normally play in less than half an hour, and use well-made components.

TAYU is named after Tayu, a legendary Chinese hero who saved his country from flooding by creating a system of waterways. It's played on an 18 x 18 point gridded game board. Players take turns placing 1 x 3 tiles containing various water channel paths on the grid. The goal is to connect more channels from North to South than your opponent can connect from East to West. The balance between offense and defense is important, as you build channels while at the same time trying to divert the opponent's channels.

Lost Cities is yet another game designed by mathematician and prolific game designer Reiner Knizia. It's a card game played with the deck provided (loosely based on a standard deck of cards). The game is designed around expeditions – although in my mind that is just a framework for the underlying clever game mechanics.

Basically, each player builds expeditions in up to 5 of the available colors, using from 1 to 3 of the possible resource cards in the respective color. Points are then added to the expeditions in ascending order only. Each expedition has a fixed cost and you can only gain points if you accumulate more points than the cost of the expedition.

The element of luck comes into play with the cards players receive throughout the game and the order they come in. Players have to weigh strategies. Should they start an expedition with one resource card or wait for more, which multiplies the point value but carries a risk – if a player waits too long, they can run out of time to play the point. Which expeditions should they build and which should they discard and leave to their opponent - who may be able to exploit them. Should they play a larger point or wait for a smaller point first. The highest point total accumulated by the end of a predetermined number of rounds wins.

Zertz has been on the shelf for months. I finally pulled it down and I was surprised at how easy it was to learn. It's become a fast favorite and a regular in the rotation. It is played on a hex-shaped board. Players jump and capture pieces but the twist is that both players use the same pieces. In the meantime, the board shrinks as segments are removed throughout play. Players can win by having 3 playing pieces in each of the three colors, or 4, 5 or 6 of one particular color. This means that game strategy can change during play as conditions change and opportunities emerge. Zertz is a classic.

NOTED & QUOTED

A circle is perfect but the world isn't round.

- Anonymous

Hope is a talent like any other.

- Margaret Storm Jameson, (1891 - 1986), English novelist, literary critic

He who has never hoped can never despair.

- George Bernard Shaw, (1856 - 1950)

Reserving judgments is a matter of infinite hope.

- F. Scott Fitzgerald, (1896 - 1941), *The Great Gatsby* (1925)

Time is the reef upon which all our frail mystic ships are wrecked. - Noel Coward, (1899 - 1973), English dramatist and actor, *Blithe Spirit* (1941)

Time is a storm in which we are all lost. Only inside the convolutions of the storm itself shall we find our directions.

- William Carlos Williams, (1883 - 1963), U.S. poet, pediatrician, *Introduction, Selected Essays* (1954)

We should never permit ourselves to do anything that we are not willing to see our children do.

- Brigham Young, (1801 - 1877), U.S. Mormon leader, pioneer

We are all capable of evil thoughts, but only very rarely of evil deeds: we can all do good deeds, but very few of us can think good thoughts.

- Cesare Pavese, (1908 - 1950), Italian poet, novelist, literary critic and translator.

I tell you earnestly and authoritatively (I know I am right in this), you must get into the habit of looking intensely at words, assuring yourself of their meaning, syllable by syllable - nay, letter by letter. - John Ruskin, (1819 - 1900), English critic, essayist, and reformer

The folly of mistaking a paradox for a discovery, a metaphor for a proof, a torrent of verbiage for a spring of capital truths, and oneself for an oracle, is inborn in us.

- Paul Valery, (1871 - 1945), French author and poet

...a drama involves primarily a conflict of values within a man (as expressed in action); a melodrama involves only a conflict of man with other men. - Ayn Rand, (1905 - 1982), *The Art of Fiction: A Guide for Writers and Readers*

In a well-written drama, the story comes out of the characters. The characters in a well-written melodrama come out of the story. - Sidney Lumet, (1924 - 2011), U.S. director, producer, screenwriter

Speaking and listening take place only in the present, but through script one speaks to men, whom one has never seen, who may not even have been born yet; the voice of a man is heard centuries after he has passed away

- Oswald Spengler, (1880 - 1936), German philosopher, *Decline of the West, Volume II* (1923)

The strength of a language does not lie in rejecting what is foreign but in assimilating it.

- Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, (1749-1832), poet, dramatist, novelist, and philosopher

America did not invent human rights. In a very real sense, it is the other way round. Human rights invented America.

- Jimmy Carter, (1924 -), *Farewell Address*

In the United States there is more room where nobody is than where anybody is. That is what makes America what it is.

- Gertrude Stein, (1874 - 1946), U.S. novelist

You have seen how a man was made a slave; you shall see how a slave was made a man.

- Frederick Douglass, (1818 - 1895), *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave*

In a world of fugitives, the person taking the opposite direction will appear to run away.

- T.S. Eliot, (1888 - 1965), U.S. poet

Whatever you can lose, you should reckon of no account.

- Publius Syrus, (c. 100 B.C.E.), Roman slave and poet

You think of water only when the well is dry.

- African Proverb

It is dismal coming home, when there is nobody to welcome one!

- Ann Radcliffe, (1764 - 1823), English novelist, *The Mysteries of Udolpho* (1764)

Our perception that we have "no time" is one of the distinctive marks of modern Western culture. -

- Margaret Visser, (1940 -), Canadian writer and broadcaster

MENSA MIND GAMES 2012 RESULTS

The 2013 Mensa Mind Games will be held April 19-21 at the St. Louis Airport Marriott in St. Louis, Missouri.

The Award-Winning Games for 2012 are:

Iota - A card game in which players take turns to find common or differing characteristics on the cards. Build your score by putting together lines of cards that have the same number of common features.

Snake Oil - A creative and unusual game in which players sell two-word products to strange customers. Invent products and then convince the buyers to buy them.

Mine Shift - A two player game in which you compete to see who can make it out of the mine first. Shift walls, place gems, and out think the other miner.

Coerceo - A game of wit and strategy with just a few simple rules. You must capture your opponents' pieces, but be careful – the board shrinks as you play.

Tetris Link - A multi-player, and non-electronic version of Tetris! Drop Tetriminoes into the grid to linking up your colored shapes to score points and block opponents' moves. But don't leave gaps in the tower grid, because points will be deducted. The game ends when the tower is full.

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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SOUTHERN CT MENSA TREASURY

Fiscal Year:

April 1, 2012 - March 31, 2013

Opening balance at 4/1/12 \$10,949.27

INCOME

American Mensa

Local Group Support Funds: \$1,328.86

Total Income **\$1,328.86**

EXPENSES

Chronicle Printing Expenses: \$456.24

Chronicle Postage & Supplies: 288.05

Chronicle Postage & Supplies: 365.06

TOTAL EXPENSES: **\$1,109.35**

2nd Quarter Balance 9-30-12 **\$11,168.78**

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Ben Behind His Voices

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

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

LIST OF SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT MENSA OFFICERS

President	Debra Jennings		locsec@rocketmail.com
Vice-President	Jim Mizera	203-522-1959	Jmizera@hotmail.com PMB #181, 7365 Main St. Stratford, CT 06614-1300
Treasurer	Elizabeth Marks Cortright	203-655-9791	reemmm@optonline.net 11 Scout Trail Darien, CT 06820-4323
Secretary	vacant		
Editor	Jim Mizera	203-522-1959	Jmizera@hotmail.com PMB #181, 7365 Main St. Stratford, CT 06614-1300
Publisher	Amy Harold	203-261-6517	amyharold@earthlink.net 110 Bart Road Monroe, CT 06468-1117
Web Master	Thomas O'Neill	203-336-5254	doctec2@gmail.com 68 Pierce Ave. Bridgeport, CT 06604-1607
Ombudsman	Gary Oberst	203-853-1810	gary@oberstlaw.com 111 East Ave. Norwalk, CT 06851-5014
Membership Officer	Jim Mizera	203-522-1959	Jmizera@hotmail.com
Reg Vice Chairman	Andrew Heffernan	401-781-3247	rvc1@us.mensa.org http://region1.us.mensa.org