

# 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](mailto:Jmizera@hotmail.com). The dinner is held the third Saturday of the month (on summer break - with dinners resuming in September).



## 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.

**SCM CHAPTER EVENTS - SEPTEMBER**

Thursday, September 12, 6:00-8:00 pm

**Art Exhibit**

at Fairfield University, Regina A. Quick Center for the Arts, Thomas J. Walsh Art Gallery, Fairfield, CT. "Lewis Hine: The Rise of a Landmark" This is the opening reception for the show featuring 51 photos by Lewis Hine (1874 - 1940) documenting the construction of the Empire State Building. Contact Jim Mizera at [jmizera@hotmail.com](mailto:jmizera@hotmail.com) or call or text (203) 522-1959 for reservations or info.

Friday, September 13, 7:00 pm

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

at John's Best Pizza, Shop Rite Plaza, Federal Road, Danbury. 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 info on location and/or reservations.

Saturday, September 17, 8:00 pm

**Theater Event: Julius Caesar**

The Elm Shakespeare Company performs Shakespeare's "Julius Caesar" at Edgerton Park, 75 Cliff Street, New Haven, CT (near Hamden town line). Free with a suggested donation of \$20 for adults, \$10 students and \$5 children 12 and under. This is an outdoor theater so please arrive early and bring a chair. Contact Jim Mizera at [jmizera@hotmail.com](mailto:jmizera@hotmail.com); (203) 522-1959.

Saturday, September 21, 6:30 pm

**Monthly Dinner**

Mensan Joan Coprio will speak on "The Funniest Movie? A Highly Unscientific Analysis of Funniest Movie Lists." Joan will toss aside her degrees in econometrics, statistics and management science from esteemed institutions of higher education and a couple decades of experience as an analytics professional in the interest of keeping people awake for this month's presentation. Instead, she will draw on her years of experience watching movies and one college "gut" class in the History of Film and her great love of finding information about any idea that

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pops into her head via Google (i.e. what are the lyrics in that song by Arctic Monkeys? What is a good recipe for cucumber salad? Is forgetting where I put my keys a sign of inevitable dementia? ) to compare top funniest movie lists she found online to determine, arguably, the funniest movie ever. Humor, like beauty, is in the eye of the beholder, so we can discuss the merits or lack thereof of the "funniest movies". Since clips are included, you are warned that there is a probability between 0 and 100% of laughing.

WHERE: The PUTNAM HOUSE Restaurant, 12 Depot Place, Bethel, CT 06801 (downtown - across from old railroad station), ([www.theputnamhouse.com](http://www.theputnamhouse.com)). The dinner will be held on the 2nd Floor. 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](mailto:jmizera@hotmail.com) or text or call (203) 522-1959 for reservations or info. Reservations strongly encouraged but not required. You can bring a donation of money or food to benefit the Connecticut Food Bank.

Tuesday, September 24, 7:00 pm

**Post Road Dinner**

Panera Bread, Post Road East, Westport, CT. Contact Jim Mizera at [jmizera@hotmail.com](mailto:jmizera@hotmail.com) or e-mail or text (203) 522-1959 for reservations or info.

## CONNECTICUT AND WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS CHAPTER EVENTS

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

### SEPTEMBER

1, 8, 15, 22, 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

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) at The Old Dublin, 171 Quinnipiac Street, Wallingford, CT 06492, 203-949-8022, 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.

7 Saturday 1:00 pm

#### Book Discussion

We will discuss *Martin Dressler The Tale of an American Dreamer* by Steven Millhauser. Mike Sawyer will be hosting and we will meet at the home of Mike's brother, 19 Woody Lane, Westport, CT Note: #19 and #21 Woody Lane share a driveway until it splits--#19 is to the left. There are lots of copies of this book in public libraries, and an unabridged audiorecording is also available. (The book has for this meeting has been changed from what was previously announced.) Potluck lunch will start at 1PM and will be followed by the discussion. Please bring a dish to share. Wine is also wel-

come. RSVP to Mike: bobbisawyer@hotmail.com or 516-625-3276 if you will be coming so space for eating and talking can be set up in advance.

Directions to 19 Woody Lane Westport driving south on the Merritt Pkwy

(1) Get off on exit 42, Westport / Weston

(2) Turn right onto CT 57--Go straight for .5 miles thru a large intersection until the end of the road

(3) Turn left onto Cross Hwy and in 1.5 miles Woody Lane will be on the right

(4) 19 Woody Lane on left--Note that it shares a driveway with #21, and then the driveway splits with #19 on the left.

Feel free to invite a friend, either Mensan or non-Mensan. If you invite someone, let Mike know and also let me know so I can add them to the list.

8 Sunday 12:00 pm

#### Indian Lunch

(ME, 1st Sunday) The food is enticing, the staff is friendly, and the company is the best to be had anywhere! Join us at Haveli India Restaurant for an all-you-can-eat \$9.95 buffet. The food is fabulous and the restaurant is conveniently located at 1300 South Main St., Rte 17 in South Middletown. To read about the restaurant, or get directions, check <http://www.haveliindia.com/> RSVP required. Call Barb Holstein for a reservation, 860-632-7873 or BarbCPA@att.net.

11 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](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. 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

19 Thursday 6:30 pm

**Pioneer Valley Dinner, West Springfield, MA** (ME, 3rd Thursday) Email Ian Fraser (ianfraser@usa.net) for more information, directions, or to RSVP. As always, new members and guests are encouraged to attend this always friendly and interesting event. We hope to see you there!

28 Friday 5:00 pm

**Fourth Friday Happy Hour**

Happy Hour (ME, 4th Friday) at The Playwright in Hamden, <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

## REGIONAL GATHERINGS

Fri. - Sun., October 11 - 13, 2013

### CT & WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS REGIONAL GATHERING

MensAutumn XXXVI

CampConnWeMa. The Summer Camp You Never Went To

Location: Quality Inn, 9 Whitehall Ave Mystic, CT 06355 (near Mystic Aquarium and Mystic Seaport Museum).

Price: \$65 per person through Aug. 31. Full refunds available until Sept. 15, 2013

Take advantage of the extended early bird rate and register now!

Keep checking our website for updated information: [www.cwm.us.mensa.org](http://www.cwm.us.mensa.org)



**PUZZLES & QUESTIONS** (Answers may be in next month's Chronicle.)

1. What is the difference between loafing and relaxing?
2. Who was the last signer of the Declaration of Independence to die?
3. How often are deadlines met?
4. What are the five longest canals in the world?
5. What current business leader is most like the late Steve Jobs?
6. Name some adverbs that have two adverbial forms, such as "loud" and "loudly".
7. Which novelists used the least dialogue?
8. About what percentage of the soldiers who fought for the Union in the U.S. Civil War were new immigrants to the country?
9. What are the best ways to take notes?
10. How many U.S. cities had major league baseball teams in 1950?

**PUZZLES & QUESTIONS ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S PUZZLES:**

2. When did King George III, the British king during the American Revolution, ascend to the throne?

A: King George III (1738 - 1820) of the House of Hanover assumed the throne in 1760. He held the crown until his death, but, because of illness, relinquished control to his oldest son, George, the Prince of Wales, in 1810. The Prince ruled as Prince Regent until he became king upon his father's death.

4. How many U.S. states have names that came from Native American languages?

A: At least 24 states have names derived from Indian languages, although the derivation of some of the names or the exact tribal language is uncertain. Two other states, Arizona and Idaho, have names that may come from Indian languages. The name "Connecticut" comes from some Eastern Algonquian language of southern New England (perhaps Mahican). It means "at the long tidal river" - the Connecticut River.

6. What are the two animals in the world that have a black tongue?

A: There are actual several animals that have blue-black-purple tongues - polar bears, giraffes, Jersey cows and several other breeds of cattle, Chow (Chow) dogs, and Chinese Shar-Pei dogs. Mixed Chow breed dogs all have blue-black-purple tongues, but there are over 30 pure-breed dogs that have

purple spots on the tongue.

8. About what percentage of their sleeping time do people spend dreaming?

A: People spend about two hours dreaming a night, so dreams occupy about 25% of sleeping time.

During an average lifetime, a person spends over 6 years dreaming. Most dreams last 5 - 20 minutes, but some last for only a few seconds. People typically have three to five dreams a night but may have as many as seven. As the night goes on, the dreams usually last longer.

10. What was the average length of a major league baseball game from 2000 - 2010 (in hours and minutes)? What was the average length in the 1970s? How many pitches are thrown per game? What is the average time between pitches?

A: The average 9-inning ball game lasted 2:57 in the first 10 years of the 21st century. In the playoffs, the average has been longer, about 3:30. In the 1970s, the average time was two hours and 30 minutes.

According to Baseball-Reference.com, the average number of pitches thrown per game is 286. The average time between pitches is 27 seconds. The major league baseball rule book limits the time between pitches when the bases are empty to 12 seconds.

**WORD CHECK**

See if you can define these verbs.

1. aver -
2. chafe -
3. contravene -
4. divest -
5. elide -
6. flummox -
7. imprecate -
8. impugn -
9. perorate (PER- uh- rayt)
10. scarify (SKAR- uh- fy)
11. slough (sluhf) -
12. stupefy -

**SYNONYM SENSE**

See if you can come up with at least three synonyms or near synonyms for each word. Then see if you can give some antonyms.

1. bold -
2. fleeting -
3. genuine -
4. objective (adjective) -
5. organized -
6. sad -
7. secret -
8. unique -

***ANSWERS ON PAGE 11***

**NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION VOLUNTEER NEEDED**

Do you have 2 hours per month to help with the distribution of this Newsletter? Less than about 25% of our members are not able to receive digitized versions. We are looking for someone to have copies printed, and then stamp and mail copies of the Chronicle. There is some flexibility in the timing, it can be done at your home at your convenience, and some receiving members would be very grateful for your time. Please contact our Local Secretary on [locsec@rocketmail.com](mailto:locsec@rocketmail.com).

**WORD CHECK ANSWERS:**

1. aver - to state positively as true; to assert or affirm with confidence, declare.
2. chafe - 1. to make sore by rubbing against. 2. to irritate or annoy.
3. contravene - to go against or act contrary to; to come into conflict with. 2. to violate, infringe, or transgress.
4. divest - 1. to take off something. 2. to take from or dispossess, as of property or rights. 3. to rid or free from. 4. to sell off holdings.
5. elide - 1. to omit or slur over in speech; to omit a sound or syllable in pronunciation. 2. to omit, ignore, or pass over.
6. flummox - to confuse, confound, or bewilder.
7. imprecate - to invoke a curse or evil upon.
8. impugn - to challenge as false or to cast doubt upon.
9. perorate - 1. to speak at length; to make a long, grandiloquent speech. 2. to conclude a speech by summing up or coming to a conclusion.
10. scarify - 1. to scratch. 2. To make slight incisions in. 3. to cut with harsh criticism. 4. to break up a road surface.
11. slough - to cast off or shed. 2. an area of soft, muddy ground; a swamp-like area.
12. stupefy - 1. To benumb; put in a stupor. 2. to stun, as with a shock or strong emotion. 3. To astound; astonish.

**SYNONYM SENSE ANSWERS:**

1. bold - adventurous, audacious, daring, intrepid, brave, courageous. Antonyms: timid, hesitant, passive, fearful, craven, reluctant.
2. fleeting - short-lived, transitory, transient, ephemeral, momentary Antonyms: ancient, long, long-lived, lasting, everlasting, eternal, immortal, permanent, enduring, durable, undying, persisting.
3. genuine - real, authentic, bona fide, true, honest, valid, legitimate, official, pure, 24-carat, veritable, unadulterated, Antonyms: fake, counterfeit, inauthentic, sham, ersatz, false, fraudulent, knock-off, questionable.
4. objective - neutral, impartial, disinterested, unprejudiced, unbiased, non-partisan, indifferent, unemotional. Antonyms: subjective, biased, partial, partisan, prejudiced, slanted.
5. organized - ordered, orderly, structured, patterned, arranged, systematized, coordinated. Antonyms: disorganized, disorderly, disordered, random, chaotic, helter-skelter, irregular, haphazard, willy-nilly, arbitrary.
6. sad - sorrowful, somber, unhappy, gloomy, blue, woeful, melancholic, doleful, down, downcast, downbeat, dejected, depressed, disconsolate, discouraged, cheerless. Antonyms: happy, glad, joyful, joyous, overjoyed, upbeat, cheerful, elated, ecstatic, high.
7. secret - hidden, latent, unknown, covert, clandestine, confidential, unobserved. Antonyms: open, well-known, public, acknowledged, recognized, familiar.
8. unique - only, one-of-a-kind, singular, unprecedented, unequalled, unparalleled, unrivaled, unmatched, matchless, incomparable, irreplaceable, sui generis. Antonyms: common, commonplace, prevalent, universal, ubiquitous, numerous, plentiful, dime-a-dozen.

## NOTED &amp; QUOTED

The important business of man is life, and the important business of life is death.

- Joseph Joubert, (1754 - 1824), French moralist and essayist

Kindness is irresistible, so long as it is genuine and without false smiles or duplicity.

- Marcus Aurelius, (121 - 180), Roman Stoic philosopher, author, and emperor, *Meditations*, Book Eleven

Charity begins at home, but should not end there.

- Thomas Fuller, (1608 - 1661), English clergymen and historian

No human thing is of serious importance.

- Plato, (428 - 347 B.C.E.)

Live with a lame man and you will learn to limp.

- Plutarch, (46 ? - 120 ?), *Morals*

I was made to work; if you were equally industrious, you would be equally successful.

- Johann Sebastian Bach, (1685 - 1750), German composer

Once you have money, you can quite truthfully affirm that money isn't everything.

- Louis Kronenberg, (1904 - 1980), U.S. drama critic, Professor of Theatre Arts, author, *The Cart and the Horse* (1964)

It is a task to see the world as it is.

- Iris Murdoch, (1919 - 1999), Irish-English philosopher and novelist

Come, follow me, and leave the world to its babblings.

- Dante Alighieri, (1265 - 1321), *Purgatorio*, V. 13

The world is always open, waiting to be discovered.

- Dejan Stojanovic, (1959 - ), Serbian poet, writer, essayist, *Circling: 1978-1987, "The Open Door"*

The most beautiful thing in the world is, of course, the world itself.

- Wallace Stevens, (1879 - 1955), U.S. poet

Simplicity is prerequisite for reliability.

- Edsger W. Dijkstra, (1930 - 2002), Dutch computer scientist

Complexity is easy; Simplicity is hard.

- Edmund Keane

To attain knowledge, add things every day; to obtain wisdom, remove things every day.

- Lao Tzu, (6th c. B.C.E.), Chinese philosopher, founder of Taoism

One can only become a philosopher, but not be one. As one believes he is a philosopher, he stops being one.

- Karl Wilhelm Friedrich von Schlegel, (1772 - 1829), German poet, critic, and scholar, *Selected Aphorisms from the Athenaeum* (1798)

The trouble with telling a good story is that it invariably reminds the other fellow of a dull one.

- Sid Caesar, (1922 - ), U.S. comic actor, writer

The road to Hades is the easiest to travel.

- Bion of Borysthenes, (c. 325 - 255 B.C.E.), Greek philosopher

Beware, o wanderer, the road is walking too.

- Rainer Maria Rilke, (1875 - 1926), German poet

You can't be late until you show up.

- Anonymous

Let the past drift away with the water.

- Japanese proverb

People could not get enough of what they'd lost, even if they no longer wanted it.

- Meg Wolitzer, (1959 - ), U.S. essayist, novelist, *The Interestings* (2013)

We forget all too soon the things we thought we could never forget.

- Joan Didion, (1934 - ), "On Keeping a Notebook", *Slouching Toward Bethlehem*

No man remains quite what he was when he recognizes himself.

- Thomas Mann, (1875 - 1955), German author

Reputation is a bubble which a man bursts when he tries to blow it for himself.

- Emma Carleton, (1850 - 1925), U.S. journalist

In a wonderland they lie, Dreaming as the day goes by, Dreaming as the summers die.

- Lewis Carroll, (1832 - 1898), English writer and mathematician, *Through the Looking Glass* ( )

The Chronicle is THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT MENSA #066.

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**MIND GAMES 2013 WINNERS:**

**Kulami.** A tactical marble placement game for 2, where players take turns placing marbles on a configurable board of tiles. The placement of one player’s marble dictates the row or column into which the next marble may be placed. Winning requires domination of the most tiles. It is another simple but clever and well-made game from Fox Mind.

**Suburbia.** Suburbia is a Euro-style tile laying game for up to 4 players who try to build up a suburb that is both sustainable and supportive of growth. Building parks encourages population growth, but factories generate income. By how best to acquire and place tiles, players may develop the most successful infrastructure.

**Kerflip.** There are already so many word games that you might think it could be difficult to come up with a new one. But Damon Tabb did it with Kerflip, and it proved to be a winner. A handful of tiles are tossed onto the board, and the sooner a player uses as many letters as possible, the more they win. More fun than you might think!

**Ghoost.** This is basically a crazy 8 type game but with a more sophisticated mechanic and well-designed cards.

**Forbidden Desert.** This game is related to a prior-year winner, Forbidden Island. It is a cooperative game, meaning 2 to 5 players work together and try and beat the game.

**CHANGE OF ADDRESS**

To change your address on the web, login at <https://www.us.mensa.org/> and click on the Edit Profile link.

Please allow four weeks for the change in MENSA Bulletin (the National Magazine) delivery, and eight weeks for the Chronicle Remember to give your membership number to facilitate this process (This number appears on your membership card and labels affixed to the Chronicle and MENSA Bulletin.) Member Number:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Old Address: \_\_\_\_\_

New Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

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

**SOUTHERN CT MENSA TREASURY**

**Fiscal Year:**  
**April 1, 2012 - March 31, 2013**

<b>Opening balance</b> at 4/1/12	\$10,949.27
<b>INCOME</b>	
American Mensa	
Local Group Support Funds:	\$1,328.86
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$1,328.86</b>

<b>EXPENSES</b>	
Chronicle Printing Expenses:	\$456.24
Chronicle Postage & Supplies:	288.05
Chronicle Postage & Supplies:	<u>365.06</u>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES:</b>	<b>\$1,109.35</b>

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

## ADVERTISEMENTS

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

**The Baby Bomber Chronicles** by Bob Liftig. Here are the secrets about the 1960's no one ever told you. This is what happened when the "perfect" Baby Boom generation and the "best country in the world" lost all self control and began to hate each other. Sex! Drugs! Rock and Roll! Hippies and American heroes! What was it like to be an "average" guy or girl caught in the middle of this free for all- You'll laugh the bells off your vintage bell bottoms! Then ask Mom or Dad (or grandpa) what they were doing. Available now from AuthorHouse [www.authorhouse.com](http://www.authorhouse.com) (888) 280 - 7715. Order this title through your local book-seller or preferred on-line retailer. 978-1-4389-0897-7 (SCISBN)

"Bridgeport - Tales from the Park City" by Eric Lehman, is available at [www.history-press.net](http://www.history-press.net) or [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com). Paperback.

### Holistic Kidney

Check out the Holistic Kidney website online. <http://www.holistic-kidney.com/articles.html> My first article is an interview with the author of How I Avoided Dialysis and You Can Too! Dr. Jenna Henderson Holistic Kidney A Safe, Natural Approach for all stages of Kidney Disease

### Ben Behind His Voices

One Family's Journey from the Chaos of Schizophrenia to Hope by Randye Kaye The gripping story of one family's experience when its firstborn, a brilliant young man named Ben, is gradually struck down by schizophrenia – and the lessons that help the family participate lovingly in Ben's eventual steps to recovery. Rowman & Littlefield, Publishers. <http://books.randyekaye.com/writing.php> or [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com).

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