



## Local Secretary News

### Chapter 66

Likely the first thing you'll note is that we have a new look. We also have some new volunteers joining us over the next few months – some of whom have already been added to the Officers listed at the back of this issue.

We also have new members joining every month. The majority of candidates that have

play some games.

April 5<sup>th</sup> is also National Tabletop Games day. Following up on a successful games event last month at ConnCon in Stamford, we will be playing in White Plains on the 5<sup>th</sup> in the games room. Mind Games will be held the weekend of the 18<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>, in Austin Texas. The monthly

#### APRIL IS MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL MONTH

**If your membership expires in 2014, that expiration is effective at the end of April. You should have received a renewal notice in the mail or an email in January. You can return that form or visit [www.us.mensa.org](http://www.us.mensa.org) to renew.**

taken the Mensa Admission Test during the past 6 months happened to be in the 14 to 34 age range, and accordingly, so are many of our newest members.

Finally, April is another busy month for Mensa. There are events every week, starting off with the greater New York REGIONAL GATHERING in White Plains.

It's close enough that many attendees come for a few hours on Saturday to meet other members, listen to speakers and

dinner will also be held that weekend on April 19<sup>th</sup>.

Set your calendars and round up your trivia buffs – the 2014 Culture Quest® competition will take place on Sunday, April 27 – the last weekend of the month.

CultureQuest draws together teams from across the United States and Canada to compete for cash prizes and cultural literacy bragging rights. There

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are two divisions:

*Classic* is open to all members regardless of age. Each team member must be a dues-paid Mensa for the 2014-15

membership year before April 1, 2014.

For the youth division (born after April 27, 1996), only the youth division team captain must be a current Mensa member.

To register, visit [us.mensa.org/culturequest](http://us.mensa.org/culturequest). **Have a Great Month!**

Deb Jennings  
*On behalf of So CT Mensa*

## Local CT Events

### Southern CT Mensa

**Saturday, April 5th, all day. Games Event** – *National Tabletop Gaming Day*. Join other chapter members at the Greater New York RG in White Plains for a day of games. Crowne Plaza Hotel White Plains-Downtown, 66 Hale Ave, White Plains, NY. Refer to <http://rg.gnym.org/> for additional information.

**Friday, April 11, 7:00 pm. Danbury Dinner** - *So CT & CT/Western MA Joint Dinner* at John's Best Pizza, Shop Rite Plaza, Federal Road, Danbury. Interested Ms should contact Ward Mazzucco at 203.744.1929 x 25, [wjm@danburylaw.com](mailto:wjm@danburylaw.com), or Rev. Bill Loring at 203.794.1389, [fr.bill@comcast.net](mailto:fr.bill@comcast.net) for more info or reservations.

**Saturday, April 19, 6:30 p.m. MONTHLY DINNER DISCUSSION:** We will discuss the 80/20 Rule (Pareto's Law), Parkinson's Law - work expands to fill the time available for its completion, and other sociological, psychological, and psycho-technological adages. Are these profound truths, half-truths, or misleading maxims?

The PUTNAM HOUSE Restaurant, 12 Depot Place, Bethel, CT 06801 (downtown – across from old railroad station). Members who have not attended previously will receive dinner for free. Dress is casual. Before the presentation, we will enjoy dinner. Parking is both behind the restaurant and across the road. Contact Jim Mizera at [jmizera@hotmail.com](mailto:jmizera@hotmail.com) or text or call (203) 522-1959 for reservations or info. Reservations

requested but not required. [Next month's dinner will be May 18<sup>th</sup>.]

### Tuesday, April 22, 7:00

**POST ROAD Dinner** *Whole Foods Market, 399 Post Road West, Westport, CT 06880*. Contact Jim Mizera at [jmizera@hotmail.com](mailto:jmizera@hotmail.com) or (203) 522-1959 for info.

### Monday, April 28, 6:30- 8:00

**NYC Energy Data Speaker Series.** Running the 4th Monday of each month at the Urban Future Lab, 15 Metrotech Center, 19th Floor, Brooklyn, NY 11201. Hosted by Southern CT Mensan Lucas Finco, Manager of Analytics for Energy Efficiency and Demand Mgmt at Con Ed. Lucas directs the team responsible for analyzing and planning the Energy Efficiency and Demand Mgmt programs.

## Other CT and Western Mass

### Mensa Events

#### Thursdays, April 3, 10, 17 & 24 6:30 pm

**Weekly Scrabble** at the Panera Bread restaurant at Bishop's Corner, 2542 Albany Ave, West Hartford. For more info., contact Lois Cappellano 413-567-4702.

#### Happy Hour in Wallingford

##### 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of every month, 4/4th

With Ann Polanski (contact her [ann.polanski@comcast.net](mailto:ann.polanski@comcast.net) home 203-269-4565 or cell 860-817-9910) at The Old Dublin, 171 Quinnipiac St, Wallingford, CT 06492, 203-949-8022, [www.theolddublin.com](http://www.theolddublin.com)

**From Route 15:** Take exit 64 toward Wallingford/Downtown, Sharp right at Quinnipiac Street, At 0.3 miles turn left to stay on Quinnipiac Street - The Old Dublin will be on the left about 0.3 miles from where you turned  
**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 in about 2 blocks.

**Baseball - New Britain Stadium: Mensa Goes to a Ballgame Saturday, April 5<sup>th</sup>,**

#### at 1:35 pm.

The Richmond Flying Squirrels (S.F. Giants' Double-A team) are in town to play the home New Britain Rock Cats (Minnesota Twins). Please bring a cell phone; our previous area has become too loud so I'll be looking for a quieter Gen Admiss. section. My cell phone is (413) 813-9105. Info at [RockCats.com](http://RockCats.com) or [tom.montague](mailto:tom.montague).



[thomas@outlook.com](mailto:thomas@outlook.com). *Join us for a great, relaxing time!*

#### Shoreline Happy Hour, 4/9

**2nd Wednesday of every month** at Donovan's Reef in Branford [www.donovans-reef.com](http://www.donovans-reef.com) The web site has a small map. I usually have a table reservation and likely 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. Donovan's number is (203) 488-5573.

Directions: from I-95 take exit 54/Cedar Street. Go south on Cedar Street crossing Rt. 1/Boston Post Rd. proceed 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 Lockworks Square business complex. Drive part way through the lot and Donovan's Reef is on the left. (Locals can also enter Lockworks Square from the Ivy Street side just off of Main St). The lounge is on the left inside. Questions? Contact Mike Wilson at 203-481-2858 or [MahoutMike@aol.com](mailto:MahoutMike@aol.com) *We have a great time talking about anything and everything. Hope to see you there!*

#### Pioneer Valley Dinner

##### April 17<sup>th</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs. monthly

6:30 pm Email Ian Fraser ([ianfraser@usa.net](mailto:ianfraser@usa.net)) for more info., directions, or to RSVP. New members and guests are encouraged to attend this always friendly and interesting event. *Come and join us!*

#### Fourth Friday Happy Hour, April 25<sup>th</sup>, Hamden, CT

Happy Hour (5:00 pm) at The Playwright in Hamden, [PlaywrightIrishPub.com](http://PlaywrightIrishPub.com)  
*Come on down and join us this month, we'd love to see ya.* Contact Gail Trowbridge 203-877-4472 or [gail\\_trowbridge@yahoo.com](mailto:gail_trowbridge@yahoo.com)

## *Techno-Shock*

### The March Dinner Meeting

At our March dinner at the Putnam House Restaurant, Southern Connecticut Mensans discussed "techno-shock". The term, a variation on the concept presented in futurist Alvin Toffler's 1970 bestseller *Future Shock*, refers to technological change that happens too rapidly for people to adjust to. The questions we considered were: Has the technological progress of the last 20 to 50 years overwhelmed you, underwhelmed you, or simply confused you? How has it changed daily life? Has it simplified it or complicated it? Are we suffering from techno-lag? Will the future shock us? Each person attending offered his or her thoughts on some of these questions for three or four minutes and others added comments.

### CONNECTIONS AND COMPULSIONS

Right off, a few people said that the problem, at least with communications technology, wasn't that people weren't adjusting to it fast enough, but that too many were becoming immersed in it, obsessed with it,

and even addicted to it. They offered many examples of how cell phones and tablets were promoting a lot of bad habits - people who couldn't seem to stay off their cell phones even while driving, callers who were irritated at you if you couldn't be reached every second, and youngsters who felt compelled to multitask on different devices while ignoring people right in front of them.

Our critics of the communications revolution acknowledged the benefits I-phones, I-pads, and similar products have delivered - for example, allowing distant relatives to keep in touch with each other and enabling strangers with common interests to find each other. But as one person stated, "Compulsive users are losing themselves and their identity in their surfing and texting." Others wondered aloud whether people who were always "connected" to the web were becoming disconnected from the actual world. On this note, someone observed that the people glued to their screens aren't "in the moment" but always anxiously awaiting the

next text, tweet, or tone. How can they pause to reflect when they are always responding? Throughout the evening, we would return to these criticisms, which were voiced by both artists and engineers.

### TECHNOLOGY, HUMANITY, AND ANXIETY

While cell phones and e-mails may have made obsessive users more anxious and hindered their personality development, one Mensan said, that can hardly be said of new technology in general. For example, he stated, medical improvements such as artificial joints, artificial limbs, and new drugs have relieved the pain and worries many people faced, particularly in old age. Someone else pointed out that 25% of senior citizens have an artificial hip or knee now. Before, they might have been crippled before they reached sixty. Now, they can walk unassisted. No one with an implant or an artificial joint feels any less human. They have not lost their identity, they have maintained their dignity.

Even in communications technology itself, where the temptation to overuse technology is probably strongest, many people don't succumb to the lure. No one in our group, for instance, seemed to use their cell phone more than a few times a day, and no calls interrupted our discussion. Yet everyone felt a little more secure knowing that he could reach others in an emergency or vice-versa. One person said he did not feel pressured to give his cell phone number to everyone - he used technology to meet his priorities, not others' whims.

Another drawback to the computer and communications revolutions is the craving to get the latest gadget, the newest update. But again, the people in our discussion characterized this as a temptation but not a compulsion. After all, many people are still using Windows XP and earlier versions of Microsoft Office, Adobe Acrobat, and Internet Explorer. No one in our group felt an itch to get the latest thing. One Mensan said he was perfectly comfortable being a late adopter of new technologies or even a non-user. Like many others, he preferred to see the tech vanguard prove the reliability of new technologies or just use low-tech alternatives.

One Mensan who has lived through a few technological revolutions addressed a critique of technology when he said that we should not be too quick to attribute people's sloth or anxiety to the latest high-tech gadgets. He pointed out that in previous generations, some people sat in front of a television for over six hours a day, turned their transistor radio dial compulsively into the night, or tuned out the world listening to CDs. "Perhaps", someone responded, "cell phone and Internet addicts are just substituting one technology and one addiction for another". What is clear, everyone agreed, is that the web has expanded our potential by giving us the ability to search the globe for information, to cultivate new interests, and to find people and services we probably wouldn't have been aware of before. While high technology cannot relieve us the choice of how to spend our time, it has definitely given us more opportunities and will give our children even more.

In the business world, the Internet has also expanded opportunities and choices, for both companies and customers. Unfortunately, while putting the world at our call, it has, as an engineer in our group pointed out, put us on call 24-7. He said that

before the spread of e-mail and cell-phones in the 1990s, business was more of a 9 to 5 world. But with the advent of the new cheap and instantaneous communication, that quickly changed. Businesses that have offices or customers in different time zones now expect their employees to check their messages long after they've checked out.

Is there a technological solution to the technological problems that come from being too connected? Someone said the only "technological" solution was to shut devices off and give yourself downtime, which may irritate people who don't appreciate your leisure time as much as you do.

## EDUCATION AND HIGH-TECH

In schools, as elsewhere, the technological revolution has had its benefits and its drawbacks, and some educators in our group commented on these. One high-school teacher who worked in technology before the personal computer revolution said that computers have definitely taken the time and drudgery out of calculations. He said that he can now devote more time to elucidating principles and much less to checking arithmetic. In

addition, the Internet has allowed him to draw on the best lessons and problems available instead of relying on just one textbook.

A teacher who worked in colleges seconded these points and remarked that he has also been able to show live demos and detailed graphics and videos from the web to better illustrate nature. Another plus, he said, is that word processing software has made him a better writer. He has been able to correct and clarify his work with much less effort. Whereas before he was reluctant to revise his writing, he does not hesitate to now.

On the downside, both of these teachers said that the technological revolution has reduced students' attentions spans, diminished their patience, and damaged their communication skills. One commented, "I ask kids to talk to each other but they don't because they would prefer to text." This limits them to 140 characters - and doesn't promote good spelling, to put it mildly.

There is another thing we don't seem to be learning in the technological revolution. Bringing up an overlooked point, a teacher commented, "Everyone is using technology but no one knows how it works or how to fix it. I was always a tinkerer, but I find

that nowadays people are shocked when I tell them that I repaired my cell phone." The idea of taking something apart and replacing parts seems foreign to them because they don't have the slightest idea of how their devices work.

### SHOCK AND AWE?

So were the Mensans in attendance shocked by technological advances? For the most part, no, but a couple of computer engineers who have worked in the computer world said that there were stunned by some innovations in that field. One computer hardware veteran said that although he had worked with microprocessors for many years, he was still surprised by Moore's Law (the generalization that the number of transistors on a chip doubles every 18 months) and he envisioned quantum computing as the next step. Another engineer who developed software for forty years said that he was shocked by the way that the sophistication of programming suddenly and exponentially increased when the personal computer emerged. He said that for a long time, computer programming seemed to be stuck in the crude and unsophisticated go-to logic of the punch-card era.

Then when computer memory and the power of microprocessors reached a certain point and came to the desktop, he saw software programming leap forward almost overnight.

What about the future? Futurists are talking a lot about transportation now, about self-driving vehicles and commercialized space travel. Will it be shocking to ride in a completely automated car? One member said that he would feel strange but his children would not. An engineer added that future generations traveling in automated cars will probably wonder why we tolerated the accidents and mechanical problems of our current autos. As for taking a vacation in space, he said that, having watched man reach the moon, he would not be shocked looking down on the earth, but he would surely be awed.

\* \* \* \*

There were many tech frontiers we did not discuss, but, overall, Mensans seemed to think we haven't yet developed the wisdom to deal with some of our new technological wonders. We left resolved to ponder how we can use technology to expand our horizons instead of distracting our attention.

*Book Review*

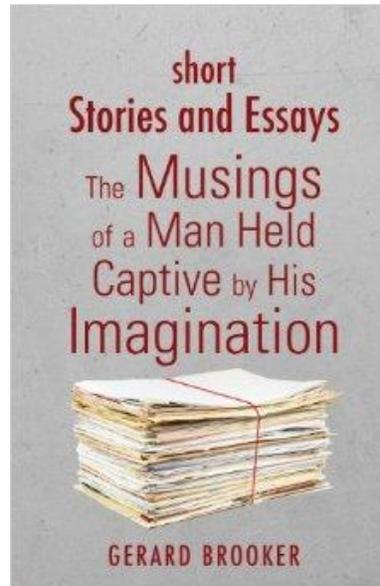
By Rick D'Amico

**short****Stories and Essays****The Musings****of a Man Held****Captive By His  
Imagination**

by Gerard Brooker

When I first received this book and checked it out, I was delighted to find that it was just what it claimed to be - short stories and essays. Inasmuch as short stories and essays are my favorite reading material, I was sure that this book would be a quick read. Far from it - although this book is very well-written and explains things clearly, it also elicits much thought. Every time I finished an essay (most were only a few pages or less), I felt compelled to stop and think a bit about what I'd read. Frequently I had to mark down notes at the end of stories, and I generously used my highlighter, as so much of his writing was deeply significant. This is not a book for the superficial.

Jerry describes this book as about himself, although he reserved the right to change names to enhance the stories. Anyone familiar with Jerry will see a lot of him in the stories and essays. Several of the selections tell of someone (often himself) growing up in Astoria, Queens,



New York, which is where he was raised. Together, they give the reader an understanding of Jerry today. The reader will also see how Jerry's time when he was a monk influenced his life.

On the dedication page of the book, Jerry expresses a hope that he has not disgraced the gifts that he was given. On

the contrary, in this book he shows those gifts used in an admirable manner. Having read several of Jerry's books, I have to say that this one is my personal favorite.

Frequently during the book, Jerry presents some uncommon, if not unconventional, and maybe even controversial thoughts on some often common subjects and events. Among other things, he calls into question the morality of using nuclear weapons against Japan during WW II.

Interestingly, one of his essays shares a name with one of his other books ("Even Whispers Can Be Heard"). As a man who's had a beard for over 30 years, I winced a bit at his essay "Why Men Grow Beards". Another essay described his thoughts before and during parachuting. In sum, the book is a cornucopia of tremendous thoughts and stories, and I highly recommend it to anyone who wants to be amused yet stimulated to think.

## Puzzles & Questions

1. If Julius Caesar had not been assassinated, how would Roman and world history have changed?
2. How old were these early U.S. leaders in 1776: George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, Benjamin Franklin, Alexander Hamilton, Aaron Burr, John Adams, Sam Adams, Patrick Henry, John Marshall, and Benedict Arnold?
3. How did the writing styles and philosophy of Jane Austen and Charlotte Bronte differ?
4. Name the ten largest cities in New York state.
5. What are the best ways for writers to overcome writer's block?
6. What are the populations of the Ukraine, its capital city Kiev, and the disputed city of Sevastopolis?
7. What is the best size for a committee?
8. How many vertebrae do humans have in their neck? How many do giraffes have?
9. Which countries have the best flags?
10. Which state in the United States has the highest percentage of homeowners? Which has the lowest percentage?
11. What was the best advice Socrates ever gave?
12. Which major league baseball team holds the record for going the most consecutive games without one of its starting pitchers pitching a complete game?

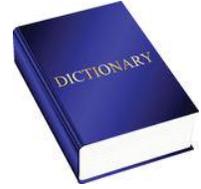
*(Answers may appear next month)*

## Answers to Last Month's Puzzles

2. *What town/municipality in Connecticut has the smallest area?* A: Derby, a city in New Haven County that borders Shelton, is the smallest municipality in Connecticut, with an area of only 5 square miles (13 sq. km.). According to the 2010 census, its population is about 12,900.
4. *About how much meat in weight does the average person in the U.S. eat in a year?* A: According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the average American ate about 185 pounds of meat in 2011.
6. *What was the distance between the ancient Greek city states of Sparta and Athens?* A: About 250 km./154 miles.
8. *What are the six ranges of the human voice by which singers are categorized?* A: Bass, baritone, tenor, alto, mezzo-soprano, and soprano.
10. *What is the meaning of the state name "Connecticut" in the Mohican Quinnehtukqut language?* A: It means "Long River Place" or "Beside the Long Tidal River."
12. *What is the approximate average word length in characters of English words in a commonly used dictionary? What is the average word length in the Greek, French, Russian, Spanish, Ukrainian, and Croatian languages?* A: English words average about 8.23 characters. Greek words average approximately 10.92 characters; French, 10.09; Russian, 9.97; Spanish, 8.80; Ukrainian, 7.86, and Croatian, 7.06; The major language with the highest word length may be Mongolian, at 11.94 characters per word, followed by German, with 11.66 characters a word.
14. *What city has hosted the most Super Bowls?* A: New Orleans and the Miami area have each hosted 10 Super Bowls. The Los Angeles Area has hosted 7, and the Tampa Bay area, four.

## Word Check

See if you can DEFINE THESE WORDS:-



1. clavicle –
2. endocrine -
3. femur –
4. gland -
5. jugular –
6. lymph –
7. sternum –
8. tendon –
9. tibia –
10. thorax –

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## Answers

1. *clavicle* – the collarbone; either of the two bones connecting the shoulder blades with the upper breastbone.
2. *endocrine* – secreting internally into the lymphatic system or bloodstream.
3. *femur* – the thighbone; the bone in the leg extending from the pelvis to the knee. It is the largest, longest, and strongest bone in the human body.
4. *gland* – a cell or organ that synthesizes chemical substances and secretes them for the body to use or eliminate.
5. *jugular* – relating to or near the throat or neck.
6. *lymph* – an almost colorless fluid that issues from the tissues of the body and carries white blood cells into the bloodstream via lymphatic vessels.
7. *sternum* – the breastbone; the long, flat vertical bone in the upper part of the torso and that attaches to the collarbone and to the first seven pairs of ribs.
8. *tendon* – a cord of tough, inelastic, fibrous tissue that connects a muscle to a bone or part; a sinew.
9. *tibia* – the shinbone; the inner, thicker bone of the leg between the knees and the ankle.
10. *thorax* – part of the body between the neck and the abdomen; in humans, part of the body enclosed by the ribs

*Noted and Quoted*

I hope to someday be as good as my dog thinks I am. - Anon

How can man know himself? He is a dark and hidden thing. - Friedrich Nietzsche, (1844 - 1900)

The day was gray, the color of Europe. - Markus Zusak, (1975-), Australian novelist, *The Book Thief* (2005)

There is a time, we know not when, A point we know not where, That marks the destiny of men, For glory or despair. - Joseph A. Alexander, (1809 - 1860), U.S. clergyman, linguist, *The Hidden Line*

There is no distance on this earth as far away as yesterday. - Robert Nathan, (1894 - 1985), U.S. novelist, poet

Much that passes as idealism is disguised hatred or disguised love of power. - Bertrand Russell, (1872 - 1970)

Life without idealism is empty indeed. We just hope or starve to death. - Pearl S. Buck, (1892 - 1973), U.S. novelist

I have been fighting over commas all my life. - Mark Helprin, (1947 - ), U.S. writer

The man who knows history already knows mankind in theory, and, for this reason, will be in less danger of being deceived by

them in practice. - James Wilson, (1742 - 1798), U.S. congressman, Supreme Court Justice

All our knowledge - past, present, and future - is nothing compared to what we will never know. - Konstantin Tsiolkovsky, (1857 -1935), Russian rocket scientist

What is the life of man! Is it not to shift from side to side? From sorrow to sorrow? To button up one cause of vexation! And unbutton another! - Laurence Sterne, (1713 - 1768), English novelist, clergyman

Failure is not fatal, but failure to change might be. - John Wooden, (1910 - 2010), U.S. bball coach

Meditation is a way to be narcissistic without hurting anyone - Nassim Nicholas Taleb, (1960 - ), Lebanese-American derivatives trader, writer

There's a way to do it better ... find it. - T Edison (1847 - 1931)

To know the world one must construct it. - Cesare Pavese, (1908-1950), Italian poet, novelist, literary critic and translator

One cannot make an omelette without breaking eggs -- but it is amazing how many eggs one can break without making a decent omelette. - `Prof. Charles P. Issawi , (1916 - 2000), Egyptian-

American economist, historian

The institution of royalty in any form is an insult to the human race. -Mark Twain, (1835 - 1910), author and humorist

A king should be a king in all things. - Hadrian (Aelius Publius Hadrianus Aelius), (76 - 138), Roman emperor

One lives so badly one always comes into the present unready, unfit, and distraught for everything ...- Rainier Maria Rilke, (1875-1926), German poet

I shall try to tell the truth, but the result will be fiction. - Katherine Anne Porter, (1890 - 1980), U.S. novelist, short-story writer, journalist

One reads prose for knowledge, poetry for power. - Richard Eberhart, (1904 - 2005), U.S. poet, professor, executive, "Why I Say It In Verse"

Those who do not want to imitate anything, produce nothing. - Salvador Dali, (1904 - 1989), Spanish artist

I felt so insufficiently equipped, so unprepared, so weak, and at the same time it seemed to me that my reflections on art were correct. I quarreled with all the world and with myself. - Edgar Degas, (1834 - 1917), French painter, sculptor

## 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. credible –
  2. dramatic –
  3. mollify -
  4. naïve –
  5. perceptive -
  6. rid -
  7. stern –
  8. verbose -
- untrustworthy, unreliable, unbelievable, implausible, dishonest, undependable, unsound, unsound, deceiving, deceptive.
2. *dramatic* – exciting, thrilling, electrifying, striking, impressive, emotional, breathtaking, startling, powerful, tense, suspenseful, theatrical. Antonyms: undramatic, boring, ho-hum, uninteresting, unexciting, dull, plain, ordinary, commonplace, banal, soporific.
  3. *mollify* – placate, pacify, soothe, appease, calm, appease, assuage, propitiate, conciliate. Antonyms: antagonize, provoke, agitate, irk, anger, exasperate, enrage, irritate, upset, incite.
  4. *naïve* – unsophisticated, unknowing, credulous, gullible, guileless, green, ingenuous, artless, unaffected, unsuspecting, wide-eyed. Antonyms: savvy, sophisticated, crafty, cunning, wily, street-smart, experienced, aware, skeptical, leery, wary, suspicious.
  5. *perceptive* – astute, aware, observant, keen, discerning, insightful, savvy, wise. Antonyms: obtuse, dense, dull-witted, unaware, oblivious.
  6. *rid* – eliminate, remove, clear, erase, jettison, dump, discard, dispel, scrap, shed, trash, junk, purge, unburden. Antonyms: keep, save, retain, collect, hold, gather, accumulate, assemble, amass, add.
  7. *stern* – tough, strict, harsh, severe, demanding, serious, no-nonsense, hard, hard-nosed, hard-boiled, unsparring, unyielding. Antonyms: mild, gentle, relaxed, soft, lax, lenient, easy, easy-going, easy-come easy-go, nonchalant.
  8. *verbose* – wordy, talkative, long-winded, gabby, glib, prolix, repetitive, redundant, periphrastic, pleonastic, garrulous, voluble. Antonyms: concise, succinct, short, brief, terse, curt, pithy, pointed, to the point, laconic, abrupt.

## SOME ANSWERS

1. *credible* – trustworthy, reliable, honest, solid, plausible, probable. Antonyms:

## *More Mensa Events*

### and Items of Interest

#### **Mensa MIND GAMES 2014**

Austin is the host with the most! Game on! Mind Games® 2014 will be held April 18-20 in the Texas capital. Lots of fun awaits you deep in the heart of Texas. Austin's considerable charms include outdoor activities, great entertainment venues and an exciting nightlife.

When you're not playing games, tour the Capitol, take in the bluebonnets or the Hike and Bike Trail, hear the racing roar at Circuit of the Americas or enjoy downtown's shopping, dining and entertainment. There's a lot to do, so you might want to arrive early or stay after to discover all that Austin has to offer.

Mind Games® will take place at the Hilton Austin Airport, just two minutes from Austin Bergstrom International Airport. Head downtown, just 7 miles away, on the \$1 Airport Flyer service. Average daily temperatures in Austin for the Mind Games time frame range from a low of 59 to a high of 81.

REGISTER online at <http://www.mindgames.us.mensa.org/register/>.

**MIND GAMES Winners from 2013 were:** Kulami, Suburbia, Kerflip, Ghost, and Forbidden Desert.

**Mensan Janine Bujalski is on the airwaves every 1st & 3rd Friday 6-10 a.m.** on 89.5FM, WPKN in Bridgeport. (There is a limited internet simulcast at [wpkn.org](http://wpkn.org)). From 6-9 am it's jazz, blues & Brazilian music, and from 9-10 am Cajun & zydeco.

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

## *Regional Gatherings*

### RGs

#### **Greater New York Mensa RG. April 4 - 6, 2014.**

GNYM's 2014 Regional Gathering is this weekend! Crowne Plaza White Plains 66 Hale Avenue White Plains, NY Phone: 914-682-0050 Registration is located in the Ballroom Foyer off the main hotel lobby. Hospitality and the Games Room will also be open

from 3:00 PM Friday until early Sunday morning. For more info.: <http://rg.gnym.org/>

#### **Metropolitan Washington Mensa RG. May 16-18, 2014**

Herndon, VA near Dulles International Airport. Come to Villainous Virginia May 16-18 for a great time at the Metro Washington Mensa Regional Gathering! We have VICiously good programs and VIBrantly tasty Hospitality offerings! VIsit

our blog at [villainousedition.wordpress.com](http://villainousedition.wordpress.com) to register, learn more about our great location, programs, games, youth track, and more! Rates are \$80 to April 30, 2014 \$85 thereafter and walk-in \$55 youth (under 18 years old) \$20 Sat. dinner & day rates online. Connect with us!

[facebook.com/VillainousEdition](http://facebook.com/VillainousEdition)

## Studio Opportunities

### Millionaire

Millionaire is back for Season 12! Join in the fun and be among the first in our brand new studio!



Auditions are held at every taping for all studio audience members. If you have auditioned before, we encourage you try again. This could be your year with our new host Cedric "The Entertainer"! Season 12 show dates are currently available, so make your ticket requests now! Sign up now for free tickets:

[www.millionairetv.com](http://www.millionairetv.com)

Find us on Facebook and Twitter  
*If the date you would like to attend is not listed at this time, keep checking back, or for additional questions call our Ticket Hotline- (212) 456-1494*  
**Our new studio is located at 105 East 106th Street, New York, NY (Between Park Ave. & Lex).**

### The Chase

The Chase is going to screen people in 6 cities across the country, so if you wish, pass this on to your members who might be interested in auditioning.

-- message from James Karfu, Casting Director:  
(For questions, contact James directly at [james@jameskarhu.com](mailto:james@jameskarhu.com) )

In April, we will embark on our national tour in search of contestants for The Chase on Game Show Network. We'd love to see some Mensa members at the auditions.

Those who are chosen will be flown to Los Angeles to tape an episode at the expense of Game Show Network.

#### *The cities:*

April 5 Washington DC  
April 5 Austen TX  
**April 12 New York NY**  
April 19 San Francisco CA  
April 19 Chicago IL  
Ongoing Los Angeles CA

Contestants outside of these cities may submit an audition tape



*The minimum age is 21.*  
To register, visit:  
[www.chasecasting.com](http://www.chasecasting.com).

James Karhu, Casting Director  
The Chase (GSN)  
[www.jameskarhu.com](http://www.jameskarhu.com)  
(310) 694-0758  
Questions:  
[james@jameskarhu.com](mailto:james@jameskarhu.com)

**The Chronicle** is the official publication of SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT MENSA



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### Change of Address

To change your address on the web, login at <https://www.us.mensa.org/> and select the Edit Profile link. You may also email, or write to,  
American Mensa, Ltd.  
Membership Department  
1229 Corporate Dr. West  
Arlington, TX 76006-6103

**Larsen Toy Labs**

Westport, CT at [larsentoylab.com](http://larsentoylab.com) to see educational and creative gifts. Receive a 25% discount for making a donation of building blocks to a nursery or elementary school or children's charity. For ideas, go to [Adoptaclassroom.org](http://Adoptaclassroom.org) or [schooldigger.com/go/CT/schoolrank.aspx](http://schooldigger.com/go/CT/schoolrank.aspx) & use code DONATE25 at the Larsen ToyLabs checkout to get your 25% discount.

**Local boy makes good**

**Southern Connecticut Mensa member Donald Bobowick has been issued a United States Patent.** The patent is for a vertical axis wind turbine design.

Vertical axis wind turbines have some advantages over the horizontal axis style we see most often. A few of those advantages are:

- Vertical axis wind turbines are bird friendly;
- Respond to lower wind speeds;
- Have the torsional benefits of a long drive shaft;
- The generator or pump they are powering can be placed at ground level for easy servicing.

The one major disadvantage to vertical axis wind turbines is that they move in the wrong direction (into the wind) for half their rotation. This newly patented design handles that disadvantage.

While scalable to large installations, this wind turbine

will be ideal for homes, farms and small businesses.

**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 Randy 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.randykaye.com/writing.php> or [amazon.com](http://amazon.com).

**The Baby Bomber Chronicles**

by Bob Liftig. Here are the secrets about the 1960s 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 [authorhouse.com](http://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.historypress.net](http://www.historypress.net) or [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com). Paperback.

**Advertising Rates**

*Short classified ads* are free to Mensa members and subscribers, \$2 per month and \$20 per year for others.

*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.



**Supplement to Connecticut Rocks!**

Pre-publication sale – save \$5 through 3/31/14 First 50 orders get a FREE copy of Paul’s Record Magazine #17/18 – a \$10 value!

**HIGHLIGHTS:**

- Over 350 new entries for Connecticut artists and Connecticut-based labels from 1946 to 1995 & beyond!
- Over 380 updated discographies and biographies from “Connecticut Rocks!”
- Forewords by Nay Nassar, Cliff Edwards, Country Paul Payton, Robb Warner
- Up-to-date Price Guide of CT Records Worth \$25 & Over!

- Record Dating Guide for “CCS” Record Numbers
- How to Date RITE Pressings
- Discographies set up as checklists for collectors!

NEW booklet: “Connecticut Record Labels” – pictures of 1000s of Con-necticut-based labels. Available fall 2014 – (see Order Form sent with this issue!)

**ORDER FORM:** Check books you want, PRINT your name & address, complete this form with your check/money order (U.S. funds only) (payable to: PAUL BEZANKER) & mail to: Paul Bezanker, 2603 Kim Miller Rd., Lake Toxaway, NC 28747.

- “Supplement to Connecticut Rocks!” and “Connecticut Rocks!” [ready to ship]

- BOTH “Connecticut Rocks!” & “Supplement to Connecticut Rocks!” [save over 20%]
- “Connecticut Record Labels” – available Fall 2014. Check the box to be notified when book is ready and its price.

**PRINT NAME & ADDRESS:** Books sent Media Mail in U.S., & via First Class elsewhere. Prices include postage. Prices are valid until 3/31/14. After 3/31/14, Supplement price increases \$5, & special offer for BOTH books expires.

Supplement to Connecticut Rocks! Connecticut Rocks! BOTH books – SAVE!  
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[Region 66 ]

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\*\* Our publisher has retired. If you’d like to volunteer (or get involved in another way), let us know. It’s a good way to keep up to date about what Mensa has to offer!