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## Important Notice

National elections for the Board of Directors of American Mensa will be ending on **May 31** (you must be a member in good standing by April 1 to vote). Beginning with this election cycle, electronic ballots are now the default and primary means of voting. If the National Office has an e-mail address on file for you, you will receive an electronic ballot. Should you prefer to receive a paper ballot, you may opt out of the electronic voting process. To do so, you may either: 1) contact the National Office at 817-607-0060; or 2) change your preference through the American Mensa website (<http://www.us.mensa.org>): click on “My Mensa,” then “Member Profile,” then “Election material preferences,” select your preference, and then don’t forget to hit the “Save Changes” button.

## SCM Chapter Events - June 2015

**Tuesday, June 6, 6:45 pm**

### Post Road Dining and Discussion

*Barnes & Noble Cafe, Post Plaza Shopping Center, 1076 Post Road East, Westport*

Topic: The Unconscious and the Subconscious. Call or text **Jim Mizera** at (203) 522-1959.

**Thursday, June 11, 7:00 pm**

### Southern Connecticut and Connecticut/Western Massachusetts Joint Dinner

*John's Best Pizza, Shop Rite Plaza, Federal Road, Danbury.*

Interested M's should contact **Ward Mazzucco** at 203-744-1929, ext 25, or **Rev. Bill Loring** at 203-794-1389, for more info on location and/or reservations.



**Saturday, June 20, 7:30 pm**

### Theater Night with Southern Connecticut Mensa

*Shakespeare on the Sound ([www.shakespeareonthesound.org](http://www.shakespeareonthesound.org))*

*Pinkney Park, Rowayton (Norwalk), CT*

**Shakespeare's *All's Well That Ends Well*** - Admission is free and so is parking nearby. However, donations are collected at the gate - \$20 suggested for adults, \$10 for seniors and students. This is an outdoor theater in the park on the banks of the Five Mile River. Patrons are permitted to stake out space on the grounds with a blanket or deck chair starting at 4 pm, 3 ½ hours before the curtain. Please arrive early and bring a chair. Call or text **Jim Mizera** at (203) 522-1959 for reservations or info.

**Sunday, June 21**

### Southern Connecticut Mensa Summer Event

*Pencil in the date – then check our blog or our Facebook page for upcoming details.*

**Tuesday, June 23, 6:45 pm**

### County Corner Dining and Discussion

*Blue Sky Diner, 273 Ferry Blvd., Stratford (approx. 1 mile from Milford)*

Topic: Aristotle's *Poetics*. Call or text **Jim Mizera** at (203) 522-1959.

**Saturday, June 27, 4:00 pm**

### Games Night

Email **Joan Coprio** at [jcoprio@optonline.net](mailto:jcoprio@optonline.net) to RSVP and for final location and directions.

*The Monthly Dinner in Bethel will take a break for the summer months of June, July, and August, but will resume on September 19. In the meantime, check the Chronicle's Calendar of Events for chapter activities. If you would like to sponsor an event or invite fellow Mensans to an event that you are attending, send a note to one of the SCM Board members and we will put it on the calendar or the blog.*

## CT & Western MA Mensa Chapter - Upcoming Events

This is not a complete listing. Details regarding these and other C&WM events can be found at: <http://www.cwm.us.mensa.org/members/member-page.htm> (Mensa ID and Password required).

**Sunday, June 7, 12:00 pm**

### Indian Lunch

*Haveli India Restaurant, 1300 South Main St., Rte 17 in South Middletown*

<http://www.haveliindia.com/>

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. RSVP required. Call **Barb Holstein** for a reservation: 860-632-7873.

**Friday, June 12, 5:30 pm**

### First Friday Happy Hour

*Brother's Restaurant, 33 North Cherry Street, Wallingford, (203) 641-2408.*

Contact **Ann Polanski**: home (203) 269-4565 or cell (860) 817-9910.

**Thursday, June 18, 6:30 pm**

### Shoreline Third Thursday

*Parthenon Diner, 809 Boston Post Rd. (Route 1 in Old Saybrook).*

Come join us for dinner. Spouses and families are always welcome. RSVPs appreciated, so I can give them an accurate count for our reservation, or just get there and look for the table with the little yellow scuba tank. I'm told we'll probably be in the lower pub; go left inside the front door and then up, around, and down to the left of the bar. Contact **Mike Milius**, (860) 392-9917 for more information or to RSVP.

**Thursday, June 18, 6:30 pm**

### Pioneer Valley Dinner

Email **Ian Fraser** ([mensanian@ianfraser.net](mailto:mensanian@ianfraser.net)) for more information, directions, or to RSVP (very much appreciated but not required). This is a perfect opportunity to see what a Mensa get-together is like if you've never been to one. New members and guests are encouraged to attend this always friendly and interesting event. We hope to see you there!

**Sunday, June 21, 12:15 pm**

### Indian Lunch & Movie

*Naatiya Indian Restaurant, 8 Mountain Ave., Bloomfield, CT*

<http://www.naatiyarestaurant.com>

Join us for a lunch buffet, followed by an authentic Bollywood movie at the theater next door! Directions at the restaurant website. The event is being arranged by our resident Indian experts, **Jeet & Melissa Chattaraj**, [jeet78@hotmail.com](mailto:jeet78@hotmail.com), so let us know if you can join us. The movie details will be sent later to those who RSVP.

**Friday, June 26, 5:00 pm**

### Happy Hour

*The Playwright, 1232 Whitney Ave, 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.

## News from the Chapter President

### SCM President's Column – June 2015

I'm writing this on Memorial Day weekend, considered by some the "unofficial" beginning of summer. We in Southern Connecticut have been treated to three days of glorious weather – I caught up on mowing, weeding, and planting, and of course grilled on Monday.

In Mensa news, voting for the national election ends at midnight on May 31st. Mind Games was held in San Diego at the beginning of May – Hilary Wiek from our chapter attended and is hosting our chapter games night on May 30th with some of the winning games.

Calling all writers and photographers! Per the American Mensa website, September will be the Bulletin's fiction issue, and they are soliciting unpublished works by members through July 15th. In addition, there is the International Mensa PhotoCup Competition, soliciting photographs through July 31st. You can get more information about both items at <http://www.us.mensa.org/>.

Although not a writer, I'm a fan of mystery fiction and detective TV series, and have recently enjoyed watching *DCI Banks*, *Broadchurch*, *Witnesses*, and *Death in Paradise*. The first three are more serious, the fourth has comic elements. So, should there be some rainy days in June, there's always binge-watching Netflix and/or Amazon Prime!

**Joan Coprio**  
**President, Southern Connecticut Mensa**



## Welcome New Members!

Priscilla Ann Bader, Weston

Vaughn Colon, Stamford

Scott Welsh, West Redding

Erin Willigan, Norwalk

## ***The April Dinner - The Great Immigration Wave of 1880 - 1924***

A small group of Mensans came to the April Monthly Dinner in Bethel to participate in a discussion about the Great Immigration to America that occurred in the late 19th century and the early 20th century. All of the participants were immigrants or the descendants of immigrants or colonists, and they spoke from both historical knowledge and family history.

Much of the discussion focused on how the geography and culture of the immigrants' homelands affected their adjustment to American life. But people also talked about how technology revolutionized immigration to the U.S. and opportunities in the New World, and how the influx of new ethnic groups transformed American society.

The Mensans at the dinner were awed by the sheer numbers of the immigrant tide. It actually began to swell before the Great Immigration. Prior to in the 1840s, immigration to the U.S. was only about 10,000 people a year. But during that decade, immigration increased to about 100,000 a year mostly because of the mass exodus of Irish fleeing the potato famine in their homeland but also because of the flight of Germans and other continental Europeans after failed revolutions.

But in the 1850s, one invention quickened the pace of immigration – the steamship. Immigrants in the first half of the century came mostly in sailing ships. It was a slow, dangerous voyage of months aboard crowded cargo ships. But the steamship reduced the time to about two weeks and lowered the price to an amount immigrants could save up or borrow from relatives already in the U.S. Immigration quadrupled in the second half of the 19th century, and then doubled in the first decade of the 20th century to over 1 million a year. Consequently, the U.S. population, which stood at 17 million in 1840, was approximately 106 million in 1920, 17% who were immigrants and 28% who were children of immigrants.

The new immigration was unprecedented because the immigrants came from different areas than before - Southern and Eastern Europe, Scandinavia, Asia, and Mexico. Now, the U.S. was no longer simply an Anglo-Northern German culture but a melting pot. The different ethnic groups tended to cluster together, mostly in cities, but some nationalities had more difficulty blending into American society than others. In particular, some of the people at our dinner noted how hard it was for two of the biggest immigrant groups, the Irish and the Italians, because they had come from villages, sometimes isolated, and now they were living in crowded cities in a foreign culture. Many Italians and Chinese returned to their native lands because they had only come to earn some money or because they felt alienation or outright hostility, or because of hostilities

How did the diverse groups manage to forge a new common culture? A few of the people at our dinner mentioned mass media - newspapers, cinema, and radio as the key. Others pointed to the growing businesses, factories, schools, and subways and railroads which threw everyone together. But there were several other reasons offered. The sheer diversity of the immigrant groups encouraged new citizens to learn the language to participate in commerce, culture, and sports. Second-generation and third-generation Americans helped their new ethnic brethren in this task. World War I and World War II also brought together millions of Americans, new and old, from all over the nation. In short, work, play, education, technology, sociology, and war all combined to meld many peoples into one.

## Puzzles & Questions

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

1. What are the most important mental benefits of a good liberal arts education?
2. When did Japan's bullet trains debut?
3. How long does it take to write a short story?
4. What is the longest river in New England?
5. Which plays had the most surprising endings?
6. How close was Washington D.C. to the population center of the U.S. when it was made the U.S. capital in 1790?
7. What are the most important skills that a movie director needs?
8. Jane Austen's novel *Pride and Prejudice* had 123,555 words, about twice the length of the average novel. How many different words did she use in that novel?
9. How do phone conversations differ from in-person conversations?
10. Who wrote these famous songs?
  - a) Volare
  - b) Fever (made famous by Peggy Lee)
  - c) The Night They Drove Old Dixie Down.
11. What businesses have been the least affected by technological progress?
12. What is the oldest minor league baseball franchise that has stayed in the same city and in the same league in North America?

## Answers to Some of the May 2015 Chronicle Questions

2. **What is the first written recorded use of the term "Silicon Valley" to denote the high-tech computer industry in the Bay area of California?**  
 A: Journalist Don Hoefler (1922 – 1986) was the first one to use the term "Silicon Valley" in a publication. He wrote a series of articles titled "Silicon Valley in the USA," which saw print in the weekly trade paper *Electronic News* starting with the January 11, 1971 issue. Hoefler's friend Ralph Vearst (1927 – 2001), a Dutch immigrant engineer and entrepreneur, coined the term.
4. **How long is the English Channel?**  
 A: The English Channel is about 350 miles (560 km.) long.

- 6. What were the seven elite colleges for women that comprised “The Seven Sisters?”**  
A: The Seven Sisters were Barnard College (Manhattan, founded 1889), Bryn Mawr College (Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania, founded 1885), Mount Holyoke College (South Hadley, Mass., founded 1837), Radcliffe College (Cambridge, Mass., founded 1879, now part of Harvard U.), Smith College, (Northampton, Mass., founded 1875), Vassar College (Poughkeepsie, NY, founded 1865, now co-educational), and Wellesley College (Wellesley, Mass., founded 1875),
- 8. What is the tallest statue in the world?**  
A: The Mamayev Monument, also known as The Motherland Calls, the Mother Motherland, and The Motherland, in Mamayev Kurgan, Volgograd, Russia, is the world’s tallest statue. It stands 85 m. tall (279 ft.). It was completed in 1967 and commemorates the Soviet victory in World War II’s Battle of Stalingrad. The Statue of Liberty is now the second tallest statue. It is 46 m (151 ft.) tall, not counting its pedestal.
- 10. What is the average height of major league baseball players?**  
A: According to an unofficial major league baseball census taken in 2014, the average height of major league baseball players is about 6 ft., 1.7 in. and the average weight is 209.7 lbs. The average age of players is about 28.7 years old and the average years of major league experience is about 5.3 years.

## Word Check

See if you can define these adjectives.

1. acarpous -
2. arrant -
3. artless -
4. distrait -
5. hermetic -
6. limpid -
7. natty -
8. tetchy -

**Answers:**

1.    acarpous     -   not producing fruit; sterile; barren.
2.    arrant       -   flagrant, blatant, out-and-out; thoroughgoing; outright.
3.    artless      -   free from artifice and trickery; genuine; ingenuous, guileless; direct.
4.    distract     -   inattentive because of distracting worries, fears, etc.;  
      distracted; absent-minded.
5.    hermetic     -   1. made airtight by fusion or sealing.  
      2. not affected by outward influence or power; isolated.
6.    limpid       -   1. clear, transparent, or pellucid, as water, crystal, or air.  
      2. free from obscurity; lucid; clear.  
      3. completely calm; without distress or worry.
7.    natty        -   trim; stylish; smartly dressed.
8.    tetchy       -   irritable, crabbed, cranky, cross; touchy.

## Upcoming National and Regional Events

### Unbridled Spirit – the 2015 Mensa Annual Gathering

July 1–5, 2015

Galt House Hotel, 140 North 4th Street, Louisville, KY

<http://ag2015.us.mensa.org/>



### RechaRGe – MONNY RG

September 4–7, 2015

Albany Ramada Plaza, 3 Watervliet Ave Ext, Albany, NY

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1647000585533222/>



### MensAutumn – C&WM RG

October 2–4, 2015

Baymont Inn & Suites Manchester, 20 Taylor St, Manchester, CT

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1576403229240787/>

## Two Ways to Reach Out to Your Fellow SC Mensans



The Southern Connecticut Mensa Blog <https://scm66.wordpress.com/>

and

The Southern Connecticut Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/SCM066/>

If you would like to post any last-minute events or information on the blog, email Merrill at [SCMensa66@gmail.com](mailto:SCMensa66@gmail.com). Anything posted on the blog will be mirrored on the Facebook page unless otherwise requested.

If you hit the Follow button on the blog, and add your email address, you will be automatically notified of all new updates.

## Noted & Quoted

We are all born mad. Some remain so.

Samuel Beckett, (1906–1989), Irish playwright, novelist, poet, *Waiting for Godot* (1953)

The object of life is not to be on the side of the majority, but to escape finding oneself in the ranks of the insane.

Marcus Aurelius, (121–180), Roman emperor, Stoic philosopher

The pursuit of truth, properly considered, shouldn't stop short of insanity.

Errol Morris, (1948–), U.S. documentary filmmaker, Radiolab episode "The Fact of the Matter"

Opie, you haven't finished your milk. We can't put it back in the cow, you know.

Aunt Bee, *The Andy Griffith Show*

Genius does what it must, talent does what it can.

Robert Bulwer-Lytton, (1831–1891), English earl, statesmen, poet

Life has gone by as if I never lived.

Anton Chekhov, (1860–1904), Russian playwright, short story writer, physician, *The Cherry Orchard* (1904)

To live is to be haunted.

Philip K. Dick, (1928–1982), U.S. science fiction writer, *Flow My Tears, the Policeman Said* (1974)

Man arrives as a novice at each age of his life.

Nicolas Chamfort, (1741–1794), French aphorist

If we were brought to trial for the crimes we have committed against ourselves, few would escape the gallows.

Paul Eldridge, (1888–1982), U.S. poet, novelist, short story writer, and teacher

Nothing ever really sets human nature free, but self-control.

- Phyllis Bottome, (1884–1963), English novelist, short story writer

A habit is only a habit until you can observe it. And then it's a choice.

Anonymous

Quite simply, the words we attach to our experience become our experience.

Anthony Robbins, (1960–), U.S. motivational speaker  
*Giant Steps: Small Changes to Make A Big Difference* (1994)

The key is not to prioritize what's on your schedule, but to schedule your priorities.

Stephen Covey, (1932–2012), U.S. author, businessman, educator, speaker

All day long the door of the sub-conscious remains just ajar; we slip through to the other side, and return again, as easily and secretly as a cat.

Walter de la Mare, (1873–1956), English poet and novelist

The less confident you are, the more serious you have to act.

Paul Graham, (1964– ), English computer programmer, venture capitalist, essayist

Mountains are earth's undecaying monuments.

Nathaniel Hawthorne, (1804–1864), U.S. novelist, short story writer

The good thing about painting from memory is that so much is forgotten.

Robert Henri, (1865–1929), U.S. painter, teacher

Blood cannot be washed out with blood.

Afghan proverb

Sometimes an answer is not yet blowin' in the wind is stirring in the breeze.

Robert Brault, U.S. freelance writer

Programs must be written for people to read, and only incidentally for machines to execute.

Harold Abelson (1947– ) and Gerald Sussman (1947– ),  
*Structure and Interpretation of Computer Programs* (1985), Preface

A man must be big enough to admit his mistakes, smart enough to profit from them, and strong enough to correct them.

John C. Maxwell, (1947– ), U.S. author, minister, speaker on management and leadership

Overconfidence arises because people are often blind to their own blindness.

Daniel Kahneman (1934– ), Israeli-American psychologist,  
“Don't Blink! The Hazards of Confidence,” *NY Times*. 5/19/11

A man will be eloquent if you give him good wine.

Ralph Waldo Emerson, (1803–1882)

History assures us that civilizations decay quite leisurely.

Will (1885–1971) and Ariel Durant (1898–1981), U.S. philosophers, historian,  
*The Lessons of History* (1968)

## Announcements & Notices

### Larsen Toy Labs

(Westport, CT) visit <http://larsentoylab.com> to see educational and creative gifts.

You can get a 25% discount when you make a donation of blocks to a nursery, an elementary school, or a children's charity.

For ideas, go to <http://www.Adoptaclassroom.org>

or: <http://www.schooldigger.com/go/CT/schoolrank.aspx>.

Then use code **DONATE25** at the Larsen Toy Labs 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;
- They respond to lower wind speeds;
- They 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 this disadvantage. While scalable to large installations, this wind turbine will be ideal for homes, farms, and small businesses.



### 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**



***Waiting for the Red Cow. What Will Happen When the Red Cow Comes to Jerusalem?***

**by Gerard Brooker**

*Waiting for the Red Cow* is the last in the trilogy about Tyszka and Sarah. We watched them survive Auschwitz and fall in love in *The Illustrator*, move to Palestine to help found Israel in *Oh, Israel, My Heart Yearns for Thee*. And now, in *Waiting for the Red Cow*, we follow them on the most perilous of all their journeys, from the statehood of Israel through the many Israeli-Palestinian conflicts.

Available in paper or e-book format at <https://www.tatepublishing.com/bookstore>, <http://www.barnesandnoble.com>, or <http://www.amazon.com>.



***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.randyekaye.com/writing.php> or <http://www.amazon.com>.



***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.

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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**

Paperback available at <http://www.historypress.net> or <http://www.amazon.com>.

## **SCM Chronicle - 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 for Display Ads: 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**.



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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**



**Archived Copies of the Chronicle** going back to 2000 are available on the web at <http://scm66.org>. 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. In addition, you can find copies of our group's newsletters and other groups' newsletters at <http://www.us.mensa.org/read/group-newsletters>.

**Mensa Chapter #066 - Officers 2015****Southern Connecticut Mensa Officers**

<b>TITLE</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>E-MAIL</b>
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