



# DelaMensa

Volume 31, Number 7

July 2005

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## EXCOMMunication - July, 2005

By: Maria Sawczuk, Local Secretary

Can How are you enjoying the heat of summer? By now the Annual Gathering is well underway in The Big Easy. Hope you're there! (I'm already planning my trip to Orlando next August for the World Gathering. It's going to be HUGE!)

On the home front, there are a few things brewing. First of all, please come out to the ExComm meeting on July 19. We'll be planning events for

the rest of the summer, as well as into the fall. We could sure use your ideas. And don't forget about our popular monthly Happy Hour/NTN Trivia night the following night, July 20. This time we'll be in New Castle, at Damon's on Route 13.

Finally, some of the present and former members of the ExComm have been toying with the idea of holding a national event in Delaware. Along those lines, I am forming a committee to

make a proposal for Mind Games, to be held in April 2007. The bid will be due to the AMC in late fall. If you are interested in helping out with the bid, and serving on the committee, please let me know. I think we are perfectly suited to take on this type of an event, being located near a major airport, and being so central to many of the larger Mensa groups. Let's put Delaware Mensa on the map, and host Mind Games 2007. DM

## New Number Puzzles

Sudoku is the hottest, fastest growing form of puzzle around these days.

With a name like Sudoku, you would think that it came from Japan. But it was developed based on the work of mathematician Leonhard Euler. It was first published in the late 1970's by Dell, in its magazine *Math Puzzles and Logic Problems*, under the catchy title *Number Place*. It first appeared in Japan in 1984 in the paper *Monthly Nikolist*, which now owns the copyright for the name Sudoku. It quickly caught on with the public, perhaps because the Japanese language is not well adapted to western type crossword puzzles. Puzzles in Japan typically have the distribution of "given" cells symmetrical within the playing square.

New Zealander Wayne Gould, a retired Judge from Hong Kong, was interested by a Sudoku puzzle he saw in a Japanese shop, and wrote a computer program to generate the puzzles. He then marketed his puzzles to newspapers in Britain, where publication started in 2004. His software company, Pappocom, is now the leading producer of these puzzles in the west.

The standard board is made up of nine blocks of nine cells. Each cell contains a single digit, 1 through 9. Each small block of nine cells must have one of each number, and each row and each column of the large block must have one of each number. A limited number of cells are "given" and the puzzle solver must find the correct combination to make it all work out. A properly formulated puzzle will have a single solution, but nobody's perfect and sometimes multiple solutions exist.

When solving a Sudoku puzzle, always start out with logic

and deduction. Scanning the rows and columns will allow you to rule out some potential numbers for a given cell. Since every row, column, and small block must all have one each of the numbers 1 to 9, they will all add up to the same number, but no addition or math is required to solve the puzzle. Comparing possible numbers from the row and column scan with available numbers within the small block of nine will allow you to narrow it further. If that isn't enough, try a different cell. With the hardest puzzles, you may need to guess at some point, but guessing and trial-and-error are considered "poor form" and are to be avoided if at all possible. There are now websites and books dedicated to theories and techniques for solving these puzzles.

If you are interested, try the puzzle below:

		8	2	6			5	
		1	4	3		2		
7	2			8	9	4		
	7	4	3					
				2			3	
5				4				
3					2	8	9	
6				9			7	
	1		5					2

## Delaware Mensa Treasurer's Report

for the six months ending December 12, 2004

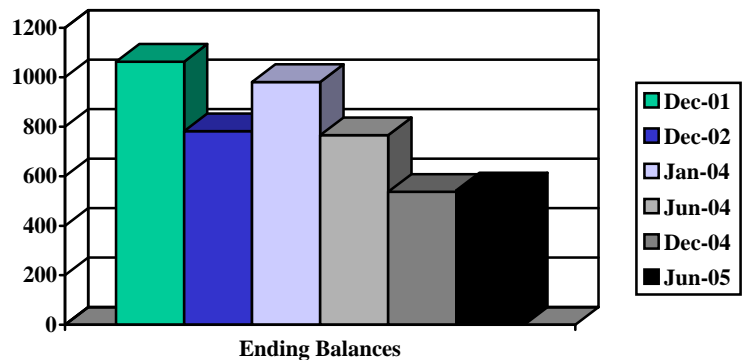
Submitted by Dee Richardson

How do you spell relief?  
E\*N\*E\*W\*S\*L\*E\*T\*T\*E\*R\*S!!!

Largely due to the work of the following Delaware Mensa members, our checking account has NOT dropped for the first time in a couple of years:

- Keith Johnson – Our esteemed editor made major changes to the look of the newsletter to accommodate electronic mailing.
- Leah Kinder – Polled the membership to get buy-in to initiate the effort of sending the newsletter electronically, and maintains the list of those signed up
- James Carroll – Agreed – at his FIRST meeting – to take on the task of being our “mailer” and had many suggestions to push things along
- Maria Sawczuk – Worked with all of the above to coordinate things
- Fran Joseph – Adapted readily to the changes in her “operations” as publisher of the hard copy newsletter
- Dee Richardson – Acted as the chief nag in getting the Executive Committee to address the problem of the diminishing treasury.

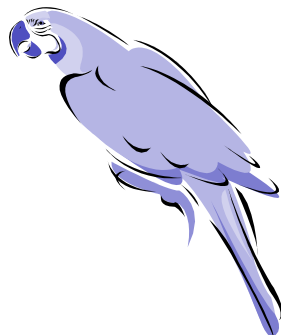
Balance on Hand 12 December 2004	\$536.69
<b>Income:</b>	
Local Group Funding	\$736.75
*Test Revenue (14 tests)	\$75.00
“Full Mailing” reimbursement	\$0.00
Private subscription to DelaMensa	\$0.00
<b>Total Income:</b>	<b>\$811.75</b>
<b>Total Funds Available</b>	<b>\$1348.44</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>	
Printing Newsletter	\$583.83
Mailing Newsletter	\$207.20
Mailing Tests (certified)	\$13.99
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$805.02</b>
<b>Balance on Hand 12 December 2004</b>	<b>\$543.42</b>



Our balance this month increased by only \$6.73 over the balance we started with in December, but it has shown that we CAN reverse the drop by using the electronic technology that many of us have available to us. DM

## Event Report

A huge turnout formed up at the Blue Parrot for a presentation by Mambo Pat, a Vodou priestess, and for dinner. This was one of the rare events that we hold in urban Wilmington, and parking was made that much more difficult by the Italian Festival being held on the next block.



Mambo Pat (her formal name was beyond this simple scribe) talked to us about the origins and organization of Vodou, and described how she, a white lady living in Philadelphia, came to be involved. She stressed that it is a central part of life in Haiti, where she was trained, and forms the backbone of all social services

to the very poor population. It is a very inclusive religion, accepting parts of any form of spirituality and rejecting only intolerance.

The restaurant was Creole themed, and served excellent food (although they could have spent a little more on air conditioning – the dining room was sweltering. The meeting ran very late, with the group peppering Mambo Pat with questions long after her talk was over. All in all, a stimulating night, and apparently much enjoyed by the crowd.

If you have any ideas for a future dinner meeting, please share them with your ExCom.

And by the way, she said there are no dolls, not in the Haitian form, at least. DM

## Coming Events

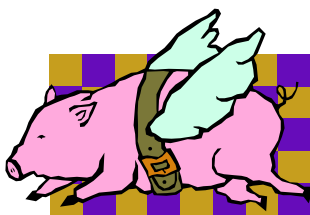
Summertime, and the living is, well, hot and sticky - time to get out and have some fun with Delaware Mensa. So pull out those daybooks and get writing!

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### TUESDAY, JULY 19, 2005:

#### ExComm Meeting

Help us plan future Delaware Mensa events and make Delaware Mensa responsive to you. Also come out and hear a recap of, and ideas gained from, the AG. All members are welcome to attend our ExComm meeting, at Where Pigs Fly in Dover.



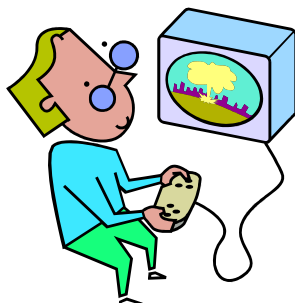
DATE: Tuesday, July 19, 2005  
TIME: 7:00 pm

PLACE: Where Pigs Fly, Route 13 and Lookerman Street, Dover  
Please RSVP by e-mailing Maria at legalady@magpage.com or calling 302-893-5118, so we know how many people are coming, and can get an adequate table.

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### WEDNESDAY, JULY 20, 2005

#### Happy Hour/NTN Trivia Night



Join Delaware Mensa on the Third Wednesday of each month for some after-work cocktails and a little friendly competition as we play another round of NTN

## Celebrations

As of 5/31/05, we have 155 members

A Happy Birthday to these Mensans with a birthday this month:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Birthday</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Birthday</u>
Eric Wolf	7/2	Robin Roland	7/9
Don Braid	7/3	Erik Pearson	7/14
Peter Terry	7/5	Alan Emsley	7/24
Margie Bleier	7/8	Leata Damouth	7/30

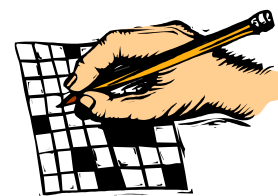
And also to those Mensans who wish their birthdays to not be published

Congratulations, and a Happy Mensaversary to these members who celebrate their Mensa anniversary this month:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Member since:</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Member since:</u>
Dee Richardson	1967	Alan Bleier	1993
Raymond Pusey	1972	Terry Peter	1993
Carl Moore, Jr.	1981	Mark McHugh	1994
Margie Bleier	1982	Dan Furlong	1995
Robert Vincelette, Jr.	1986	Ward Gaisor	2003
David Klein	1991	Morgan Wood	2004

Trivia. You've probably seen NTN Trivia at a favorite bar or restaurant. It's a nationwide trivia network, with rounds of games played 24 hours a day. You answer the questions shown on the TV screen by using a small voting device. If you've never played before, it's highly addictive! Come out and see what it's all about, and challenge your fellow Mensans.

DATE: Wednesday, July 20, 2005  
TIME: 6:00-8:00 p.m. PLACE: Damon's Restaurant, 149 North DuPont Highway, New Castle  
To RSVP, e-mail Maria at legalady@magpage.com or call 302-893-5118. No RSVP necessary, but we'll know to look for you this way. DM



Solution to the Number Puzzle on page 1

2	4	9	3	7	5	6	1	8
1	7	3	4	6	8	2	5	9
5	9	8	2	1	6	7	4	3
9	2	7	1	4	9	3	8	5
4	3	5	8	2	7	9	6	1
8	1	9	6	5	3	4	7	2
3	9	4	9	8	1	5	2	7
7	8	2	5	3	4	1	9	6
9	5	1	7	6	2	8	3	4

## Delaware Mensa Calendar

*Grab your personal calendar and write down some events!*

Mon, July 11	11:30—? Downtown Lunch Bunch meet in the basement Cafeteria of the Hotel DuPont for lunch and stimulating conversation. (Every 2nd Monday) Info: Fran Joseph at 302-994-6347
Tues, Jul 19	7-9 pm, ExComm meeting at Where Pigs Fly, in Dover. For info, call Maria, 302-893-5118
Wed, July 20	6 to 8 pm, NTN Trivia Night at Damon's Restaurant, 149 North DuPont Highway, New Castle. Every 3rd Wednesday. For info, call Maria, 302-893-5118
Sun, Aug 28	7 to 9 pm, Movies at the Schwartz center in Dover. Enron, the Smartest Guys in the Room will be showing. The movie starts at 7, so be there early to get your ticket and meet the rest of the group. For info, call Keith, 302-242-8201, or see the Schwartz Center website

Your event here

DM

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## JULY 2005

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Amelia Earhart Disappears-1937
3	4 Independence Day	5	6 New Moon	7	8	9
10	11 Lunch Bunch	12	13	14	15	16 Apollo 11 Launch- 1969
17	18	19 ExCom Meeting	20 Happy Hour/ NTN Trivia Night	21 Full Moon	22	23
24	25 DelaMensa Deadline	26	27	28	29	30
31						

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