



DelaMensa

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EXCOMMunication - October, 2005

By: Maria Sawczuk, Local Secretary

As I write this, I am sitting in a hotel room in Chicago, and the White Sox have just won the World Series. What an exciting time to be here! I'm lucky - I am in Chicago for two reasons: business and Mensa. This weekend is Chicago Mensa's annual RG, HalloweenM, and I am anticipating meeting a large number of my friends, including GenX SIG members from around the country.

That's one of the great things about Mensa - you can meet people from across the neighborhood or across the country. I've made a number of friends through Mensa (which was one of the main reasons I joined), including some I would consider close, lifelong friends.

We had a moderately successful National Testing Day turnout, testing 14 potential new members. I had many more inquiries from people who could not make the session, but want to test.

If you know of anyone you think would want to join, please encourage them to find out more. My goal is to top 200 Delaware Mensa members.

Also, we need more proctors (especially downstate). Please, if you hold a minimum of a bachelor's degree, and are interested in volunteering a small amount of time a year to Delaware Mensa, contact me and I'll give you more information.

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COMING EVENTS!

Plan to attend one of Delaware Mensa's upcoming fall and winter events, and get the most out of your membership.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2005: Meet the RVC

Join us for dinner at the Hollywood Grill on Route 202 in Fairfax and meet our Regional Vice Chairman (RVC), Marc Lederman. In addition to serving as our RVC, Marc is the World Gathering Logistics Chair, Publications Recognition Program (PRP) Chair, and a magician. Marc will talk to us about plans for the upcoming Region 2 LDW, the World Gathering and Delaware's bid to host Mind Games 2007, answer your questions about Mensa, and show us a few magic tricks. This is a great event for new members to find out more about the opportunities in Mensa and how to get the most out of your membership.

We would also like to take this opportunity to raise funds for The Red Cross of the Delmarva Peninsula. Please bring a monetary donation, and you'll be entered into a drawing for a prize.

DATE: Saturday, November 12, 2005
TIME: 7:00 p.m.

PLACE: Hollywood Grill Restaurant, 1811 Concord Pike, Wilmington
To RSVP and for directions: E-mail Maria at legalady@magpage.com, or call 302-893-5118.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2005: PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION.

Delaware Mensa is proud of our very own Downstate Coordinator, Leah Kinder, whose amazing photographs will be on exhibit during the month of December at the historic Smyrna Opera House. Join us at the opening reception on December 1. More information will follow, but mark the date!

DATE: Thursday, December 1, 2005
TIME: 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
PLACE: The Smyrna Opera House, Corner of Main and South Streets, Smyrna. (Main Street is one block west of US Route 13). For more information, visit their website at www.smyrnaoperahouse.org). 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.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2005: INTELLIGENT DESIGN - SCIENCE OR FAITH?

Intelligent Design - the assertion that certain features of the universe and of living things exhibit the characteristics of a product resulting from an intelligent cause or agent, not an unguided process such as natural selection. Is this a science? Is it based on faith? Is it neither? Is it some combination of both? Should it be taught in schools? Come join us for dinner and a conversation on the merits of intelligent design.

DATE: Thursday, December 15, 2005
TIME: 7:00 p.m. for dinner; debate to begin at 8:00 p.m.

PLACE: TBD
To RSVP, e-mail Maria at legalady@magpage.com or call 302-893-5118.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 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 Trivia. You've probably seen NTN Trivia at a favorite bar or restaurant. It's a nationwide trivia network,

(Continued on page 3)

Marc My Words

By Marc Lederman, Region 2 RVC

In September I participated in my second AMC meeting, this time going to Arlington, Texas, home of our National Office. While there, I toured the office and met our staff.

On Friday, the AMC and staff directors met all day for short- and long-term planning sessions. Each of us had the opportunity to list anything we felt Mensa needed to work on over the next few years. The ideas were sorted first by category, then by duration (short term or long term). We then ranked the items and began assigning the high priority items. Several of these items will appear on the December AMC Meeting agenda.

On Saturday, we had the AMC Meeting. The motion to require the National Office staff to handle advance registration processing, online registration, fi-

nancial accounting, and oversight of onsite registration for all major AML events was soundly defeated, 16 to 1. The Communication Committee's Policy and Guidelines for Administrators of Internet Communication Services was approved. A motion was passed to strongly recommend that websites of local groups and websites of local/regional/national gatherings direct members to the site's "bulletin board" or "forum" area where members may make their event-specific ride-sharing or room-sharing needs known and thereby work out a mutually agreeable arrangement, preferably "off line."

Two new committees are being formed - one to review the procedures for the Nominating Committee, and one to think about special events to celebrate American Mensa's 50th anniversary in 2010.

Plans are looking more favorable for a spring 2006 Leadership Development Workshop (LDW) in the King of Prussia, Pennsylvania area. Details haven't been finalized, but progress is being made. Please check the Region 2 website (region2.us.mensa.org) for the latest information on this event, or contact me directly.

In November I will be visiting Delaware Mensa for an evening of Mensa and Magic. Please contact me directly for more information on this event.

The next AMC meeting will be December 3 in Phoenix. The agenda will be on the AML website in mid-November, and you can join us in a discussion of the agenda on the Region 2 Yahoo Group (groups.yahoo.com/group/AML-Region2/).

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Commentary

Boy Am I Old!

by Paul Victor [Reprinted from L.A. Mentary, newsletter of Greater Los Angeles Area Mensa, January, 2004; Arvin Tseng, Editor]

One of my grandchildren asked me the other day, "What was your favorite fast food when you were growing up in Germany?" "There was no fast food when I was growing up," I informed him. "All the food was slow." "C'mon, seriously. Where did you eat?" "It was a place called 'home'," I explained. "My mother cooked every day and when we got home, we sat down together at the dining room table, and if I didn't like what she had cooked I was allowed to sit there until I liked it."

By this time, the kid was laughing so hard I was afraid he was going to suffer serious internal damage, so I didn't tell him the part about how I had to have permission to leave the table. But here are some other things I would have told him about my early childhood, if I had figured that his system could have handled it:

Most parents did not own their house, wore only Levis, never set foot on a golf course, never traveled out of the country and there were no credit cards.

In their later years they had something called a revolving charge card. But that card was good only at Sears Roebuck. There is no Roebuck anymore. I think he died. My parents never drove me to soccer practice. This was mostly because we never had heard of soccer. We didn't have a television in our house because... it had not yet been invented. All newspapers were delivered by boys and all boys delivered newspapers. I did too, six days a week. It cost seven German pennies, of which I got to keep two. I had to get up at 4 am every day. I also had to collect the money from the customers. I liked those customers best who told me to keep the change.

In my grandfather's days all there were was horses and carriages. He too had those. He knew how to get the horse to walk, but he had a problem steering it. A neighbor once asked him "Where are you going, Simon?" And he answered, "Ask the horse!" When my dad cleaned out my grandmother's house (after she had died) he brought me an old bottle with a bunch of holes in the top. I thought someone had tried to make a salt shaker out of it. But it actually was the bottle that would sit on the end of an ironing board to "sprinkle" clothes

with because there were no steam irons yet.

Boy, am I old!

DM

From the Editor

The holiday season is starting now, and we won't have any peace for months to come. And it starts earlier every year. This year the Halloween candy went out on display before Labor Day. Christmas candy and decorations were out before Halloween. It's a continuous stream of food from about Labor Day until the last of the Easter leftovers are gone. No wonder some of us have a few extra pounds.

Luckily there's one thing guaranteed to take that weight back off—writing articles for your local newsletter! Well, so it's not really guaranteed, but it can't hurt. Write about what you do, what you think, or what you imagine. If it interests you, it probably interests someone else, so why not share it. I'm always in need of concise (no more than 1000 words), well written articles for the newsletter, so please send them to me, e-mail preferred.

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Coming Events (Continued from page 1)
 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, December 21, 2005
 TIME: 6:00-8:00 p.m.
 PLACE: TO BE DETERMINED
 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.
 NEXT DATE: Wednesday, January 18, 2006, same time, place TBD

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What a cruel thing is war: to separate and destroy families and friends, and mar the purest joys and happiness God has granted us in this world; to fill our hearts with hatred instead of love for our neighbors, and to devastate the fair face of this beautiful world.

Robert E. Lee

Wars can be prevented just as surely as they can be provoked, and we who fail to prevent them, must share the guilt for the dead.

Omar N. Bradley

Celebrations

As of September 30, we have 166 members

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

<u>Name</u>	<u>Birthday</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Birthday</u>
Enrico Federighi	11/1	Charles Houghton	11/23
Patrik McMahon	11/6	Mary Carr	11/25
James Bishop	11/14	Edward Stahl Jr.	11/25
William Halberstadt	11/16	Coke Westbrook	11/26
Dee Richardson	11/19	Jean Armstrong	11/30
Robert Abel, MD	11/21	Nicole Perefefe	11/30

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>
Patricia Lehman	1967	Jeffry Pearson	2002
Paul Craven	1982	Robert Auer, Jr.	2003
Sandra Layne	1982	Maryanne Bellman	2003
David Bailey	1991	Joseph Gillson, Jr.	2003
Coralee Witham	1998	Leah Kinder	2003
Todd Litterelle	2000	Joanne McCarthy	2003
Regina Barry	2002	Thersa Quaintance	2003
Arnold Caine	2002	Joseph Rank	2003
Thomas Desmond	2002	Ronald Snow	2003
Robert Fridhandler	2002	Alison Taggi	2003
Martha Lankford	2002	Paul Timmons	2003
Bart Miller	2002	Allison Berdoulay	2004
Brian Miller	2002	Lynda Wright	2004

And a warm Delaware Mensa welcome to
 Nicole Perefefe of New Castle

Delaware Mensa Calendar

Grab your personal calendar and write down some events!

Sat, Nov 12	7 to 10 pm, Meet the RVC, Marc Lederman; Hollywood Grill, 1811 Concord Pike, Wilmington. To RSVP, e-mail Maria at legalady@magpage.com or call 302-893-5118.
Mon, Nov 14	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
Thur, Dec 1	6 to 8 pm, Photography Exhibition Reception, at the Smyrna Opera House (corner of Main and South streets, Smyrna.) Join us to view photos by Mensan Leah Kinder. For more info, see www.smyrnaoperahouse.org). To RSVP, e-mail Maria at legalady@magpage.com or call 302-893-5118.
Thur, Dec 15	7 to 10 pm, Dinner Meeting and discussion of Intelligent Design—Science or Faith. Place is TBD, to RSVP, e-mail Maria at legalady@magpage.com or call 302-893-5118.
Dec 16-18	Winter Solstice RG, the Regional Gathering of Central Pennsylvania Mensa, Lancaster PA. Contact Amy Antonucci at Shoikana@gmail.com or (717) 481-7747 for info or registration
Wed, Dec 21	6 to 8 pm, NTN Trivia Night at Stewart's Brewing Co, Rt 40 in Bear. Every 3rd Wednesday. For info, call Maria, 302-893-5118

Your event here

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Mensa is an international society whose sole membership requirement is a score in the top two percent of the general population on an approved intelligence test. It is non-profit, has no religious or political affiliations, and promotes no official positions. Send address changes and requests for information to: **American Mensa Ltd., National Office, 1229 Corporate Drive West, Arlington TX 76006-6013, 817-607-0060, e-mail: AmericanMensa@mensa.org.** DelaMensa is the official publication of Delaware Mensa, local group number 197 of American Mensa Ltd. *Opinions expressed herein are those of the authors, and should not be construed as official opinions of either American Mensa Ltd. Or Delaware Mensa.* Manuscripts and letters are welcome, but must be original and unpublished. Reprints will be considered if accompanied by written permission from the copyright holder. All submissions must be signed, although the name of the author will be withheld upon request. Deadlines are shown on the calendar included in the newsletter. All submissions should be sent to the Editor at the address listed in the directory below.

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NOVEMBER 2005

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 New Moon Spruce Goose flies, 1947	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11 Veteran's Day	12 Dinner Meeting— Meet the RVC
13	14 Lunch Bunch	15	16 Full Moon	17	18	19
20	21	22	23 DelaMensa Deadline	24 Thanksgiving Day	25	26
27	28	29	30			

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