



DelaMensa

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April 2007

EXCOMMunication - April, 2007

By: Maria Sawczuk, Local Secretary

It's that time of year again – time to renew your Mensa memberships. It's also election time! This year, election time has a special meaning in Delaware Mensa. Our very own Leah Kinder is running for Regional Vice Chair for Region 2, in a very hotly contested election. She currently represents our entire region to the American Mensa Board of Directors (or AMC), and wants to continue to do so for the next two-year term. It's up to us to help her out.

Please please please – VOTE!! You'll be receiving your ballots around the middle of this month. New this year – we are able to vote electronically, so you won't even have to find a stamp! We'll have computers set up at a few of our in-house events this year, so if you come out to an event, you can vote right then and there. If you have any questions about the ballot, please contact me. I'll be glad to help you out.

Don't forget to come out to one of our events this month. We've got lots of different interests covered this month –

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from trivia to crafts to philosophy. And just ask some of our members who came out to their first Delaware Mensa event last month – we really don't bite!

Hope to see you in person soon!

DM

Coming Events

SUNDAY, APRIL 15 - Black-Market Knitting with Regina Barry

During WWII, my great-great uncle had a thriving black-market business in his Army service in Europe. Meat? Cigarettes? Booze? – No, socks. His mother had insisted that all her children learn to sew, cook and knit well; and he was **very** good at knitting socks. And scarves, and hats and gloves. My uncle would, for a fee, design and knit-to-fit anything anyone wanted to pay him to do! Socks made him the most money.

Then, he taught me to knit....which means I don't have any of the fancy techniques in the books - but I can make almost anything.

Ever knitted? Never knitted? Drop in and I'll have needles, yarn, simple patterns and some easy lessons (or bring your own goodie to start...) My husband will show off his neck-warmer, carefully designed to use while riding motorcycles and working in ship rigging; and easy to make. Of course we'll have some food.

DATE: Sunday Apr 15, 2007

TIME: 1 to 4 pm

PLACE: Regina's house, Wilmington. Please RSVP to Regina Barry at 655-0290, or rmbarry1066@earthlink.net,

to get directions and so I know how many chairs to set out.

SUNDAY, APRIL 29, 2007 - CULTURE QUEST

SIGN-UPS DUE BY MARCH 30 – Do you know who won the first Nobel Prize for Physics? How about the other name for the spice also known as "wild marjoram?" Join a team and see just how good your trivia skills really are.

DATE: Sunday, April 29, 2007

TIME: 4:00 p.m.

PLACE: TBD—To join a team, contact Maria at 302-893-5118 or legalady@magpage.com before March 30.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 16, 2007 -

Happy Hour/NTN Trivia Night

Join Delaware Mensa on the First and Third Wednesdays 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, 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.

(Continued on page 3)

The Kinder Garden—April 2007

By Leah Kinder, Interim Region 2 RVC

OK, well so much for that warmer weather I was expecting. It's still pretty cold out there, but gardeners and homeowners in other parts of the country are starting to report the emergence of crocuses this past week or so. As of this writing, no such luck in Delaware. Here's hoping that will change by the time you all read this!

I had a grand old time at Snowball RG, hosted by Central New Jersey

Mensa. Snowball was the first Gathering I ever attended, and I've been hooked ever since. With over 250 attendees, from as far away as California, you can guess they have the reputation for throwing a heck of a party, and they lived up to it. I participated in a Candidates' Session on Saturday morning, performed as a Pungo Player in the penultimate performance of their original (but also richly stolen) play Mensalot, and hosted an RVC rap session on Sunday morning, after a meeting to further plan the upcoming Leadership Development Workshop in Virginia, scheduled for this upcoming November.

Speaking of the Candidates' Session, the elections are coming! I've been asked to remind you all in this column that the Mensa International elections are held during the same time period as our American Mensa elections. One major difference between American and International elections is that at the international level candidates may choose to run as a "slate." You may vote for one or more candidates from a slate without voting for the entire slate. As an AML member, you may vote for representatives at both levels. Candidate information will be published in your next Bulletin, and I'm sure any candidate in the running would be happy to hear from you if you have questions or concerns.

Upcoming in our region is M-Counter Intelligence RG on Memorial Day weekend, hosted by Maryland Mensa and



Metropolitan Washington Mensa in the heart of America's espionage establishment. I hope to see you all there!

Also coming up faster than I realized is our Annual Gathering, with a theme of "old Time AG'n" and based on what I saw during my visit to Birmingham in January, what promises to be delightful Southern hospitality. I had the opportunity to tour the AG hotel after the AMC meeting, and let me tell you, it's beautiful. More information can be found at <http://ag2007.org/>.

I heard from several new (or relatively new) members after my last column was published. I love getting those emails! Keep them coming! I can be reached at rvc2@us.mensa.org any time you have questions, concerns, input on the most recent agenda, or just want to say hello. Region 2 also has a Yahoo! Group where we talk about the business of Region 2 at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/AML-Region2/> and you're welcome to join us there.

Last but not least, I'd like to leave you with a few questions. At the January AMC meeting, a committee was formed to study Local Groups, and member satisfaction. I'd love to hear from all of you what Mensa means to you. What made you join and keeps you renewing? What are your favorite activities at the Local Group level? Do you go to regional events? National events? What's the one thing you love most about your membership in Mensa? Are you one of the faces I'd see if I attended an event in your region? If not, why not? What would it take to get you to come on out and attend an event? Do you read your newsletter and Bulletin from cover to cover?

Leah Kinder, RVC2

Check out the official American Mensa forums at...<http://www.us.mensa.org/community/forum/>

DM

Only two things are infinite, the universe and human stupidity, and I'm not sure about the former.

Albert Einstein (1879-1955)

Mensan in the News

Introduction to African-American Genealogy Research

There's one more session—Delaware Mensan Regina Barry will present a talk on African-American genealogy research at:

- Woodlawn Library 7pm, Apr 19

Regina will follow the family of Alexander, born in South Carolina as a slave on a plantation, to his present-day family members in Wilmington DE. Many genealogy techniques and tips will be demonstrated. Registration is required - contact the Newark Library—302-731-7550.

Websites of interest:

Delaware Mensa local group site: still under construction, but with contact info and links to past newsletters—www.delaware.us.mensa.org



Region 2 site: Information of regional interest, and links to other local groups in our area—region2.us.mensa.org

COMING EVENTS (Continued from page 1)

DATE: Wednesday, May 16, 2007

TIME: 6:00-8:00 p.m.

PLACE: Buffalo Wild Wings, Sunset Station Shopping Center, Route 40, Bear

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.

SUNDAY, MAY 20, 2007 - Games Day

Leah and LD Kinder invite you to their home in Felton for a day of games, food and fun, from 1:00 pm until we get tired.

House favorites include Beyond Balderdash, Cranium, Scrabble and Trivial Pursuit, or bring your own game, if you have a special favorite. Snacks and soft drinks will be served.

DATE: Sunday, May 20, 2007

TIME: 1:00 p.m. 'til ??

PLACE: Buffalo Wild Wings, 680 South Bay Road (Route 113), Dover (across from former Blue Hen Mall) To RSVP, e-mail Leah at bluepointjive@gmail.com or call 302-222-2357.

Please RSVP so we know how many people to expect.

DM

Announcements from National

Elections:

This is a friendly reminder that the April/May issue of the Mensa Bulletin is the election issue.

While members would normally receive the Bulletin around the first of the month, it will not mail until April 12 due to the election. This is roughly two weeks after the normal mail date and coincides with the beginning of the election period on April 15.

Also, because the issue contains a ballot for each member, it will be sent to all current members current as of 3/31, including additional family members.

Also, as in prior years, that there will be two ballots included with the Bulletin. The International ballot is blue, will be inserted inside the magazine, and will be its own self-mailer. The American Mensa ballot will be polybagged on the outside of the magazine and will be its own self-mailer. These ballots must be mailed separately to each destination in order to be counted.

Lastly, you have the option this year of voting online for the national (but not the international) election. Information for voting online will be included on the white, Ameri-

can Mensa ballot.

Mensa for Kids:

Chick-fil-A, a fast-food chain with 1300 restaurants nationwide, will feature a "Mensa for Kids" card deck in its Kid's Meals throughout the month of April. There are five different decks, each with a set of 24 brainteasers for children of various ages. Each deck has a different theme: animals, food, sports, secret codes or geography. Additional "Mensa for Kids" puzzles will be available online at www.chickfila.com. (Click on "Kid's Zone" and then "Fun in the Zone.")

Each card deck also includes a link to our brand-new Web site, www.mensaforkids.org. This educational site is an adjunct of our main site and is sponsored by the Mensa Education & Research Foundation. It features fun-filled games and activities meant to encourage learning and introduce Mensa to children. The site also links to resources for parents and teachers of gifted children. The site is a great opportunity to share Mensa with the gifted children in your life!

Mensa Lore

"Carnelli" is a party game invented by Jan Carnell, a long-time member of Metropolitan Washington Mensa. A little like Charades, a little like Ghost, and a lot like free association, Carnelli requires no materials or props; players only need quick-wittedness, a good memory, and an acquaintance with modern culture.

The directions are posted on the Metropolitan Washington Mensa (MWM) website by permission of Jan Carnell and Jim Lange (a former LocSec of MWM), who own joint copyright.

Carnelli is the game of titles. It is played in a circle; four players is about the minimum. The first person gives a title; the next responds with a title connected to the first in one of seven ways; and so on around the circle. If a player fails to give a valid response (also see below), he/she is out. The last player to survive is the winner -- the quickest-witted of them all.

Valid Title Connecters

- (1) Mutual Word or Word-Element.
- (2) Mutual Star.
- (3) Mutual Author/Auteur.
- (4) Mutual Director/Performer/Participant
- (5) Mutual Concept.
- (6) Mutual Producer.
- (7) Pun.

Ways to Get Yourself Eliminated

- (1) Repeat a title that was used earlier in the round.
- (2) State the title incorrectly.
- (3) The word or phrase you gave wasn't a title but a trademark
- (4) Take too much time trying to think of something, anything, to stay in the game.
- (5) Make a double jump.
- (6) Make an inappropriate jump
- (7) Invent a title you think sounds plausible and get caught doing it.

EVERY MONTH EVENTS!

Join Delaware Mensa this fall at one of our many fun events. Time to pull out those calendars!

FIRST WEDNESDAY Happy Hour/NTN Trivia Night

THIRD WEDNESDAY Happy Hour/NTN Trivia Night

Join Delaware Mensa from 6 to 8 pm, on the First and Third Wednesdays 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, with rounds of games played 24 hours a day. If you've never played before, it's highly addictive! Come out and see what it's all about, and challenge your fellow Mensans.

PLACE: Buffalo Wild Wings, 680 South Bay Road (Route 113), **Dover** (across from former Blue Hen Mall) To RSVP, e-mail Leah at bluepointjive@gmail.com.

PLACE: Buffalo Wild Wings, Sunset Station Shopping Center, Route 40, **Bear**. To RSVP, e-mail Maria at legalady@magpage.com or call 302-893-5118.

SECOND MONDAY Downtown Lunch Bunch

The Downtown Lunch Bunch meets at 11:30 in the basement Cafeteria of the Hotel DuPont for lunch and stimulating conversation. (**Second Monday of each month**) Info: Fran Joseph at 302-994-6347

LAST SATURDAY Philosophy and Discussion Group

Here's a new recurring event for Delaware Mensa. John Slomski and Dr. Deb Gleason host a monthly Philosophy & Discussion Group at their home in Boothwyn, PA, which is a stone's throw from the Delaware State line. Join us, and Delaware Valley Mensa (DVM) on the last Saturday of each month, at 8 pm, for good conversation. Bring your most nagging philosophical questions, and maybe munchies.

PLACE: John and Deb's home in Boothwyn. To RSVP and get directions, contact John or Deb at doctordeb@copper.net, or call 610-485-2745.

Delaware Mensa Calendar

Grab your personal calendar and write down some events!

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| Wed, Apr 4 | 6 to 8 pm, Downstate Happy Hour/ NTN Trivia, at Buffalo Wild Wings, 680 South Bay Rd, Dover. It worked so well we're holding it twice a month. First Wednesday of each month we'll be in Dover. To RSVP, e-mail Leah at bluepointjive@gmail.com. |
| Mon, Apr 9 | 11:30—? Downtown Lunch Bunch meet in the basement Cafeteria of the Hotel DuPont for lunch and stimulating conversation. (Second Monday of each month) Info: Fran Joseph at 302-994-6347 |
| Sun, Apr 15 | 1 to 4 pm, Black Market Knitting with Regina Barry. Meet at Regina's home to learn the secrets of knitting good, functional garments. To RSVP and for directions, contact Regina at 655-0290, or rmbarry1066@earthlink.net |
| Wed, Apr 18 | 6 to 8 pm, Happy Hour/ NTN Trivia Night at Buffalo Wild Wings, Sunset Station Shopping Center, Route 40, Bear. Third Wednesday of each month . For info or to RSVP, e-mail Maria at legalady@magpage.com or call 302-893-5118. (next event Dec 20) |
| Sat, Apr 28 | 8 pm, Philosophy and Discussion Group at John and Deb's house. Last Saturday of each month . For info and directions, John or Deb at doctordeb@copper.net, or 610-485-2745. |
| Sun, Apr 29 | 4 to 6 pm, Culture Quest, the annual Mensan trivia contest. Must sign up before March 30. Contact Maria at legalady@magpage.com or call 302-893-5118. |
| Tues, May 15 | 7 to 9 pm, ExCom Meeting, at A Piece of Ireland, Chesmar Plaza, Route 4 and Marrows Road, Newark. Please RSVP by e-mailing Maria at legalady@magpage.com or calling 302-893-5118. |
| Sun, May 20 | 1 to 4 pm, Games Day at Leah's house. Play the house favorites, or bring your own. Chili Cook-off! Snacks and drinks will be served. Contact Leah for directions at bluepointjive@gmail.com or 302-222-2357. |

Your event here!!

DM

Celebration

As of February 28, we had 181 members

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

Name	Birthday	Name	Birthday
Sheldon Waters 4/2		Eric Bald 4/26	
Spencer Kiernan 4/9		Theresa Quaintance 4/27	
Francis Gribbin 4/20		Michael Enright 4/30	
Leonard Freedman 4/25		Matthew Latocha 4/30	
Francis Stevens 4/25			

and those who wish their birthdays not be published

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

Name	Member since:	Name	Member since:
William Halberstadt 1967		Keith Johnson 1994	
(Happy 40th !!)		Michael Ross 1999	
John Shaposka 1972		Timothy Ryan 2001	
(Happy 35th !)		Karl Boettcher 2002	
Michael Enright 1982		Michael Kamps 2004	
William Boyles 1988		Michael McQuade 2004	
John Palabrida 1988		Robert Balback 2006	
Henry Milligan 1989		William Worrall, III 2006	

A warm Delaware Mensa welcome to the Hillson family (Christian, Christina, and Holly) who moved to Wilmington from Dallas, TX

A woman hit her golf ball into the woods and found a frog caught in a trap. The frog said to her, "If you release me from this trap, I will grant you three wishes with the condition whatever you wish for, your husband will get ten times more or better."

For her first wish she wanted to be the most beautiful woman in the world. The frog warned her, "You do realize that this wish will also make your husband the most handsome man in the world, an Adonis, that women will flock to him and..." The woman replied, "That will be okay." So, poof - she became the most beautiful woman in the world.

For her second wish, she wanted to be the richest woman in the world. The frog said, "That will make your husband the richest man in the world, and he will be ten times richer than you and..." The woman said, "That will be okay, because what is mine is his, and what is his is mine." So, poof, she became the richest woman in the world!

The frog then inquired about her third wish, and she answered, "I'd like a mild heart attack.

*Used without permission from
www.vaguebuttrue.com*

Good Wine Cheap (and good food to go with it)

By John Grover

While contemplating the subject of this month's column, my wife asked me what I would like for dinner. We had not had spaghetti and meatballs in quite a while, so I suggested that. This dish was a real staple when the kids still lived at home. And, having it again was like welcoming back an old friend.

There are many wines of course that will match well with this meal. And, if there had been a bottle of Chianti in the house, I probably would have gone with that. But another nice pairing is the 2004 red Zinfandel from Ravenswood of California (Plus I had a few bottles in the cellar.). Ravenswood is well known for its medium and higher priced single vineyard Zinfandels and promotes them with the phrase "no wimpy wines". But this wine is their Vintner's Blend which is available at a very affordable price point. It has all the signature characteristics of red Zinfandel including an attractive cherry nose and an earthy, spicy flavor that exudes red fruit and black pepper. It matches well with BBQ sauces for chicken or ribs and dishes such as below. It is widely marketed for \$8 to \$11 a bottle.

Sharon's Meatballs (The Boss has done this recipe from memory for over 38 years, so attribution is rather difficult.)

Ingredients: 1 lb. ground beef (90% lean in this case and it

still didn't come out dry.); 4 slices of bread soaked in water and then squeezed out; 3 or 4 tbsp of finely chopped onion; 2 peeled garlic cloves finely chopped; 1 raw egg; 1 tbsp of grated Parmesan Cheese; a handful of chopped fresh parsley; 1 tsp. of salt; 1/8 to 1/4 tsp. of fresh ground black pepper.

Add together ingredients, breaking up the bread into small pieces and mixing thoroughly. By hand shape mixture into meatballs (Recipe should make about 16 meatballs.). Place meatballs into a medium sized baking dish. Cover and cook in the microwave for 15 minutes. Place cooked meatballs into a sauce pan and add your favorite spaghetti sauce. Heat at least until sauce is hot; but, it is better to let it simmer for perhaps a half hour to allow the flavors to meld together. Serve with pasta (I prefer angel hair.).

I hope that you will contact me with your comments and favorite wines at jgrover@berk.com. I will be happy to share them with the broader Mensa group.

John Grover is a member of Mensa of Northeastern New York. He lives with his wife Sharon in the Hudson Valley of New York.

This column runs in several Mensa newsletters, and John has offered it to DelaMensa on a regular basis. Please let me know how you like it, and if you would like to see it continue! Ed.

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FIRST CLASS MAIL

APRIL 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
			Full Moon	Happy Hour/ NTN Trivia Night		
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Easter	Lunch Bunch					
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
		New Moon	Happy Hour/ NTN Trivia Night			
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
		DelaMensa Deadline				Philosophy Discussion
29	30					
CultureQuest (teams are set)						