



DelaMensa

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October 2006

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EXCOMMunication - October, 2006

By: Maria Sawczuk, Local Secretary

It's that time of year again – National Testing Day is Saturday, October 21, and Delaware Mensa is participating. We have two sites again this year: Grace Church in downtown Wilmington, and the Georgetown Public Library. Think your friends and/or family members are Mensa material? Help them discover Mensa and join for less! Visit www.us.mensa.org/members and download a coupon for a \$5 discount on the Mensa Admission Test on

Mensa Testing Day. Give these to your friends and family- anyone you think should join Mensa! You can print out as many as you like and give them to as many people as you like, but only one discount is allowed per candidate.

We have some very exciting news on the National front – our very own Leah Kinder, former Downstate Coordinator, has been appointed (pending formal approval of the AMC) as Interim Regional Vice Chair (RVC) for Region 2! I believe she is the first member of

Delaware Mensa to represent our region on the AMC. I am sure Leah will be a wonderful RVC, and wish her the best of luck!

However, her “ascension” to the AMC leaves another hole in our ExComm. Anyone Interested in being appointed as Downstate Coordinator, please let me know. It won't take gobs of your time, and is a great way to become active and meet lots of members.

DM

Coming Events

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2006 - An Evening with the SPCA

Ever wonder what the Delaware SPCA really does? The Director of Humane Education for the SPCA, Scott Vogel, is here to debunk rumors, explain facts, and educate us on the SPCA's mission, how they do what they do, and more importantly, why, and how you can become involved. Scott has been the Director of Humane Education for 17 years, and is a dog trainer and the animal behaviorist for the shelter. He is a member of the Dog Writer's Association of America and the founder of Pets on Wheels therapy program in Kent and Queen Anne's Counties, Maryland. He has been in animal welfare for 25 years and is listed in the Who's Who Among American Teachers.

DATE: Wednesday, October 3, 2006
 TIME: Dinner at 7:00 pm (\$12.99 buffet), with the program to begin at 8:00 pm
 PLACE: Michael's Restaurant, 1000 Churchman's Road, Christiana. To RSVP, e-mail Maria at legalady@magpage.com or call 302-893-5118. We would like you to RSVP in advance so we can give the restaurant an accurate head count.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2006 - Downstate Happy Hour/NTN Trivia Night

It's become so popular we decided to hold it twice a month! On the first Wednesday of each month, we'll be in Dover!

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.

DATE: Wednesday, October 4, 2006
 TIME: 6:00-8:00 p.m.
 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. No RSVP necessary, but we'll know to look for you this way.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2006 - 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, 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, October 18, 2006
 TIME: 6:00-8:00 p.m.
 PLACE: Buffalo Wild Wings, Sunset Station Shopping Center, Route 40, Bear. To RSVP, e-mail Maria at legal-

(Continued on page 3)

Marc My Words

By Marc Lederman, Region 2 RVC

It was good to see several of you at the World Gathering (WG) in August. More than 2,200 people attended. Hospitality was full of people socializing, eating, shopping at the Mensa Boutique, and using the Internet Cafe. Many of the more than 300 programs were so crowded that people were spilling out into the hallways. The games room and tournaments had great participation. Two of our newest events, The Mensa Foundation Dodgeball Tournament and the Rocky Horror Picture Show, were so successful that plans are underway to schedule them at future Annual Gatherings (AGs).

Speaking of future AGs, Central Alabama Mensa will be hosting the 2007 AG in Birmingham. Are you one of the more than 400 people who already have registered? Through the end of the year, registration is only \$50. Hospitality will serve breakfast items each morning, one balanced meal each day, one specialty event each day, and plenty of hors d'oeuvres throughout the day. For the health conscious, you'll find plenty of fruits and vegetables. There will be a diverse program of speakers, including members of the Birmingham community and a variety of Mensa speakers. You'll also find Kids Trek, dances, games, tournaments, Leadership Development Workshops, and much, much more. Central Alabama Mensa hosted the 1997 AG, and several members of that

committee are back to work on next year's AG. I was the Program Chair in 1997, and this time I am the Speaker Logistics Chair. If any of you want to give a program or lead a discussion group at the AG, please let me know. Make sure you check out the official AG website <http://www.ag2007.org/> for all the latest information on the AG.

Leading up to the AG, our region will host five of its own Regional Gatherings (RGs). Our fall season will kick off with Delaware Valley Mensa's Liberty Bell XVI. Head over to King of Prussia, Pennsylvania, October 13-15, and go "Back and Forth in Time." DVM gives a nod to the various Dr. Whos over the years, and blinks a little at Friday the 13th. Programs Organizer Pat Horsley (pathsorsley@mac.com) invites you to contact her with questions about the contests.

In November, we'll be going back in time once again. Tidewater and Richmond Mensa invite you to join them in Williamsburg, Virginia, November 10 - 12, for Mensalot. Mensalot has something for everyone - local tours of the Colonial Williamsburg area, tons of shopping at the local factory outlets, Busch Gardens, and for the thirsty, Budweiser Brewery!

Central Pennsylvania Mensa invites you to join them in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, December 15 - 17, for Winter Solstice. This RG is a relaxing affair in the outlet store capital of Amish Country. You can meet world-renowned Mensans and local friends, old-timers

and first-timers, and enjoy the fun bits like the \$10 gift exchange, pool party, chocolate orgy, games room, banquet, and more.

Next March, Central New Jersey Mensa Mensa will host Snowball XXXIII in Iselin, New Jersey, March 2 - 4, 2007. They have moved to a new hotel with lots more space. Gamers will appreciate the game room that is twice as big as last year and on the same floor as hospitality.

Later in the year, Maryland Mensa and Metropolitan Washington Mensa are planning to host a joint RG in April or May. Delaware Mensa hopes to join the RG circuit next September. More information on these gatherings will be available in the near future.

August was a very tough month for the AMC, as two of our members, Secretary Judy Vasiliauskas and Region 9 RVC Henry Miller, resigned for health reasons. Both will be missed, and I wish them both a quick return to better health.

The Executive Committee of the AMC has appointed me the Interim Secretary, and the AMC is expected to elect me Secretary at the October meeting. This means my term as RVC will come to a premature end. The AMC is expected to elect a new Region 2 RVC in time for the October meeting and is considering several candidates. I'm proud to announce that within a few days of my withdrawing as RVC candi-

(Continued on page 4)

Introducing RVC2: our own Leah Kinder

I've just been appointed as the interim Regional Vice Chair for Region 2, and I wanted to take a moment to introduce myself to those of you who don't know me. I'm grateful for this opportunity to get to know more of you.

I've been the Downstate Coordinator for my local group, Delaware Mensa, since February 2004, and a moderator of the GenX SIG's online community for the past year. I am excited to have the opportunity to serve Mensa on a regional level.

I hope to continue the wonderful job that Marc has done. Professionally, I am a pediatric private duty nurse. I work nights, and I normally use my downtime at work to answer my correspondence.



I hope to meet many of you at Mensa-lot and Solstice in the upcoming months, and hearing about your ideas for the region. Unfortunately, I will be forced to miss Liberty Bell because of the AMC meeting that same weekend in Rhode Island. I can be contacted directly by email at rvc2@us.mensa.org or on Yahoo Messenger as [bluepointjive](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/AML-Region2/). Marc has turned over ownership of the forum at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/AML-Region2/> and I invite you to join us there, if you haven't already.

Leah Kinder, Interim RVC2

Mensans in Orlando!

(This article was inadvertently cut off in last month's newsletter, and is re-printed here so you can actually read it)

The Mensa World Gathering was held August 7-13 in Orlando, Florida. Over 2000 Mensans together in one place has never happened before, and who knows when it will happen again. Delaware was represented by LocSec Maria (the Queen of Dodgeball), Leah, (now interim RVC2), and your editor, Keith. If any other Delawareans were there, I'm sorry I missed you – send me your story and I'll print it.

This Gathering had the added challenge of not only ten times as many things as you could do in the time available, but all of Walt Disney World at the same time. Many hours of sleep were missed. Speakers held forth in conference rooms up and down the hotel, making it a real struggle to decide what to hear. Some of my favorites were sessions on the Native Americans of Florida, NASA's manned space program, Alchemy, and the science and business of locksmithing. Then, there was the first annual Dodgeball tournament, raising money for MERF, the Gen-X dance, and business meetings to keep Mensa running smoothly. If that's not enough, the games room and the hospitality suite were open 24 hours a day, for the bored insomniac, not to mention all the SIGs and the GenX events.

In EPCOT, Soarin' and Mission Space (go for the "spinning" option) are well worth the wait, but Test Track still has bugs (I've been on the ride 4 times over the last few years, and it has broken down with me on it 5 times.)

All in all, the WG was one huge event. We're starting much smaller with our Delaware Regional Gathering targeted for

EVENTS *(Continued from page 1)*

ady@magpage.com or call 302-893-5118. No RSVP necessary, but we'll know to look for you this way.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2006 - Mensa Testing Day

Mensa Testing Day is October 21, 2006. do you know someone who should join? This month we have a big push, again, to get people to take the test. And for the first time, you can get them a \$5 discount off of the cost. Go to www.us.mensa.org/members and look to the right for a link to download a coupon (limit one per candidate).

This year we will again test at Grace Church in NewCastle, and at the Georgetown Library in Sussex County. Candidates should contact Fran (302-994-6347) or Maria (302-893-5118) to reserve a seat and check start times.

DATE: Saturday, October 21, 2006

TIME:

PLACE: Two locations – see above.

DM



Ask Maria how many Mensans you can fit in a hotel room when you have free booze available.

2007. You are all invited to the initial planning meeting, time and place to be announced. The final location won't be pinned down until the week before, so call Maria if you are interested in attending.

(If you want to get started finding out what this "Gathering" stuff is all about, take a look at the list of Regional Gatherings listed every month in the Bulletin, and pick one that sounds good to go to. There are several in the Mid Atlantic area coming up in the next few months.)

DM



Mensa girls can party!

Solution for Word Puzzle on page 4

AIR	OAR	TEE
ORE	EAR	TOE
ROE	ERA	TOT
ROT	VIE	TOTE
ROTE	VET	TOTS
RIOT	VETO	TOES
RIVET	VETS	TEES
ROOT	VEST	TORE
ARE	TEA	TOO
IRE	TEAR	SEE
		SET
		SEA

ExCom Minutes

Minutes

Delaware Mensa ExComm Meeting – September 7, 2006

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:15 pm by the LocSec, Maria Sawczuk. In attendance were Downstate coordinator Leah, Editor Keith, and several others, including Marlene Naylor, Steve Michel (webmaster), and guests LD and Marie.

2. The first order of business was upcoming local events. The following events are planned (more ideas are always welcome):

- October – a speaker from the SPCA, dinner meeting.
- November – a speaker from the Delaware crime scene investigator group, John Ubil, at a dinner meeting; Games Day at Leah's.
- ExCom meeting – the next meeting is planned at Leah's, before the Games Day on Nov 19.

3. Regional/National events were discussed:

- It is time for the MERF Scholarship program. Dee agreed to chair the committee, and Marlene agreed to help out with publicity.

- Mensa Testing Day is Oct 21. The North testing location will be Grace Church in NewCastle, run by Fran with several helper/trainees. The South location will be Georgetown Public Library, run by Jim and Nichole.
 - It was decided to delay any bid for Mindgames until 2009, after our successful (?) RG.
 - It was decided to delay the date of our RG because of hotel availability and competition with other Mensa events. Nichole agreed to take Leah's place as event chairperson, so a programs coordinator (Nichole's position) is needed.
4. Local elections must be held this year. Steven Michel agreed to lead the elections committee. Nominations are needed. Anyone willing to serve should contact Steve (SDM1177@yahoo.com) or any local officer. Several ExCom positions are currently empty.
5. We need to update our By-Laws. Marlene agreed to chair the committee.
6. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm. Next meeting will be Nov 19 at noon at Leah's house.

Keith Johnson, Editor, DelaMensa

DM

Picnic, Anyone?

For those of you who made it to Maria's half-birthday party (and those of you who didn't) there are two more left this year. I just wanted to extend the invitation to all of you, since it's almost like having a pre-made local event--all we have to do is show up!

The first is Sunday, October 1st, from 3pm to 7pm. The band is called Charm City Sound, and they are a polka band from the Baltimore area. The other is Saturday, October 21, from 3pm to 7pm. The band is called Shake, Rattle, and Roll, and they play 50s and early 60s rock and roll. They're from the Allentown/Bethlehem PA area.

Both are \$15 for adults and \$5 for kids under 12. This includes all you care to drink of both beer and soda. You're welcome to bring other alcohol with you, or bring your own food. They also sell food there. There's a concrete dance floor and two covered pavilions. The parties are held rain, shine, or hurricane.

This is my husband's uncle who hosts them. The more, the merrier. He loves live music, and this is how he supports his habit. If you ask for me as you come in, whoever's there should be able to point you to me, if you don't know what I look like. I'd love to see you all there!

The address is 711 Blackbird Forest Rd, Smyrna, DE. For more info and questions, you can either email me, or call him (Sam Kalb) directly at 302-653-9712. The best times to catch him are right around 8am and 8pm.

Leah Kinder, former Downstate Delaware Coordinator - now Interim RVC2

MARC MY WORDS (Continued from page 2)

date for the upcoming election, four members of our region came forward to run for that office. I have often said that the membership deserves a choice for every elected position, and I wish each of the candidates the best of luck in the next election.

I am unable to attend the Liberty Bell RG this year since the AMC is meeting in Rhode Island that weekend, but I hope to see many of you at the other upcoming RGs. Please take some time to meet our RVC candidates. Find out what they would like to accomplish, and let them know how they can best represent you.

DM

Word Puzzle

This is a word-finding puzzle, prepared for your entertainment. The game board

is a 4 by 4 grid of letter cells

Find as many words as possible in the grid. Words must be formed from adjacent cells, in the order in which they connect, and no cell can be used more than once in a word (but a letter can be used more than once if it is in more than one cell). Words must be three or more letters. A cell has up to eight adjacent cells: one above, one below, one on the right,

A	O	R	A
A	I	O	E
V	E	E	T
S	T	O	E

one on the left, and four along the diagonals. Words can go up, down or whatever, and needn't be in a straight line.

The official solution found 33 words. Can you find them all? Can you find others? The listed solution uses English only, no abbreviations, acrnym, contractions, or proper names.

(Solution on page 3)

DM

Mensa Hall of Fame

Announcement! Announcement!

The American Mensa Hall of Fame honors individuals who have demonstrated their genius through remarkable vision and accomplishments. This year's inductees are George Washington Carver, Confucius and Aristotle.

They join previously inducted Marie Curie, Euclid, Louis Pasteur, William Shakespeare, Socrates, Nikola Tesla, Leonardo da Vinci, Albert Einstein, Isaac Newton, Benjamin Franklin, Charles Darwin, Galileo Galilei, Thomas Edison and Nicolas Copernicus. Visit www.halloffame.us or www.mensa.org for more information.

HELP NEEDED:

Volunteers are disparately needed to fill out the dwindling numbers in our Executive Committee (ExComm). We need people to help put together future events and meetings for the group. We need people to contact new members and help resolve membership problems. We need people to help build interest and promote events in that small portion of Delaware south of the canal. Contact any officer listed on page 6, or Steven Michel, sdm1177@yahoo.com, who is leading our Election Committee.

Celebration

As of August 31, we have 163 members

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

<u>Name</u>	<u>Birthday</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Birthday</u>
Beverly Williams	10/6	Richard Dillard	10/16
Theodore Leach	10/7	Franklin Ward	10/16
Leah Kinder	10/8	Barbara Lavelle	10/20
Rachel Urban	10/8	Michael McQuade	10/21
Curtis Smith	10/10	Arnold Caine	10/24
Andrew Trachtman	10/11	Jack Varsalona	10/29
Steven Michel	10/12	Brian Miller	10/30

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>
William Biak	1970	Barbara Sikora	1986
Francis Gribbon	1976	Jean Armstrong	1989
William Mace	1980	Christopher Shelley	2002
Franklin Ward	1984	Andrew Trachtman	2003
Beverly Williams	1984	Geoffrey Weyer	2004
Paul Sedoti	1986	Scott Judd	2005

And a warm Delaware Mensa welcome to new member Frank Stevens of Wilmington

Delaware Mensa Calendar

Grab your personal calendar and write down some events!

Tues, Oct 3	7 to 10 pm, an evening with the SPCA. Scott Vogel of the SPCA will talk to us about their mission and how you can be involved. Michaels Restaurant, 1000 Churchman's Rd, Christiana. To RSVP, e-mail Maria at legalady@magpage.com or call 302-893-5118.
Wed, Oct 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, Oct 9	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
Oct 14-16	(Delaware Valley Mensa) Liberty Bell XV RG: That's Medieval: An Anachronistic Experience. Sheraton Park Ridge Hotel, King of Prussia, PA. Register with Joy Gomez-Farrow at gomezfaj@pobox.upenn.edu or (610)521-6701. Book a hotel room at (610)337-1800 or (800)325-3535 (special Mensa rate of \$92/night before 9/23)
Wed, Oct 18	6 to 8 pm, Happy Hour/ NTN Trivia Night at Buffalo Wild Wings, Sunset Station Shopping Center, Route 40, Bear. Every 3rd Wednesday. For info or to RSVP, e-mail Maria at legalady@magpage.com or call 302-893-5118.
Sat, Oct 21	Mensa Testing Day—Delaware Mensa has testing locations in Newcastle (Grace Church, Wilmington) and Sussex (Georgetown Public Library) counties. If you know someone who would like to test, call Maria (302-893-5118), Fran (302-994-6347), or Jim Bishop (302-644-9541) for info or to sign up.

Your event here

DM

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Editor:
Keith Johnson
181 Proctors Purchase
Hartly DE 19953

Postmaster: Send change of address notification to:

American Mensa Ltd.
National Office
1229 Corporate Dr. West
Arlington TX 76006-6103

FIRST CLASS MAIL

LocSec	Maria Sawczuk, legalady@magpage.com
1st Councilor	Jim Bishop, bishopdds@hotmail.com
2nd Councilor	Vacant: Volunteer Needed
Treasurer	Dee Richardson, busydeee@comcast.net
Proctor/RecSec	Frances Joseph, 302-994-6347
Downstate Coordinator	Vacant: Volunteer Needed
Editor	Keith Johnson, jkjohnson@snip.net
Regional Vice Chair	Leah Kinder, bluepointjive@gmail.com, RVC2@us.mensa.org

OCTOBER 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Yom Kippur	3 SPCA Dinner Meeting	4 Happy Hour/ NTN Trivia Night	5	6 Full Moon	7
8	9 Columbus Day Lunch Bunch	10	11	12	13 Liberty Bell RG	14 Liberty Bell RG
15 Liberty Bell RG	16	17	18 Happy Hour/ NTN Trivia Night	19	20	21 Mensa Testing Day
22 New Moon	23 DelaMensa Deadline	24	25	26	27	28
29 End Daylight Savings Time	30	31 Halloween (traditional)				