



DelaMensa

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January 2009

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EXCOMMunication - January, 2009

By: Maria Sawczuk, Local Secretary

Happy 2009! I hope this coming year brings you health, prosperity and above all, happiness. As a corporate bankruptcy lawyer, I am sure to be busy this coming year, unfortunately for the rest of the economy.

For those of you who love trivia, we are going to try adding a third trivia night this month. We'll be meeting on the 2nd Thursday of the month (January 8th this month) at the new Buffalo Wild Wings on Route 7 near Kirkwood Highway in Wilmington (across from the big TD/Commerce Bank). We'll meet at 6:00 pm and hang until at least 7:30 pm. If you never come out to trivia night, please let me know you are coming so I can be on the lookout for you. I look forward to seeing you there! (And don't forget we'll still have our 1st and 3rd Wednesday trivia nights in Dover and Bear, respectively).

To encourage testing during the winter months, American Mensa will offer Local Groups a special "double testing/double funding" opportunity. This February, if we test at least two people, we will receive double funding from the test proceeds. So, please encourage anyone you know who might be a candidate to contact me. Once we get the dates, I will post them to the Yahoo group.

Not a member of the Yahoo group? You can subscribe by sending an email to DelawareMensa-subscribe@yahoogroups.com or visiting the group at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/DelawareMensa/>. We post last-minute events and reminders there. There's minimal traffic, so join today!

The deadline is fast-approaching for our scholarship contest. Please encourage those college students in your life to enter by downloading the application at <http://www.mensafoundation.org/>. Deadline to enter is January 15, and you don't need to be a Mensa member to qualify.

<i>Directory of Local Officers</i>			
LocSec	Maria Sawczuk	302-893-5118	legalady@magpage.com
1st Councilor	Cindi Basner	302-525-6163	lightintheclouds15@yahoo.com
2nd Councilor	Alexis Campbell	302-234-0563	alexis.campbell@comcast.net
Treasurer	Dee Richardson	302-892-2299	busydeee@comcast.net
Proctor Coord	Frances Joseph	302-994-6347	
Downstate Coord	Vacant: Volunteer Needed		
Editor	Keith Johnson	302-242-8201	keith.johnson@hughes.net
RVC-2	Leah Kinder	302-222-2357	bluepointjive@gmail.com, RVC2@us.mensa.org

Finally, I have a few spots open on my dodge ball team. We play at an elementary school near Trolley Square one night a week (either Tuesdays or Wednesdays) for about an hour, and then head out to a sponsoring bar to hang out. We use a Nerf-like ball, so you won't get hurt if you get hit, and it's all for fun, so you don't have to be good (believe me!). I can't tell you how much fun I had last season, and can't wait for the new one to start (on Jan 6). If you are interested in playing, let me know – it's not too late!

DM

AML Statistics—November 2008	
Total membership	53,206
New and reinstating membership	874
Offers of membership	414
New members since April 2008	2,860
Reinstating members since April 2008	2,154
<i>A full report of monthly statistics is available on the AML Web site at www.us.mensa.org/officerresources.</i>	

Coming Events

Games Day: 1 to 5 pm, Mensa Games Day at Jim Lee's house. Bring a snack or favorite game. Games on-hand include Carcassone, Settlers of Catan, Alhambra, Citadel, Boggle, and others. Be there - 1315 Gilpin Ave, Wilmington. Call Jim at 302-562-5132 to RSVP or for information.

We would love to hear from members about what kinds of meetings you'd like to see, and what topics you'd like to hear about! If it's interesting to you, then it's probably interesting to others.

Celebrations

As of September 30, we had 168 members

A Happy Birthday to these Mensans :

<u>Name</u>	<u>Birthday</u>
Alexis Campbell	1/10
Geoffrey Weyer	1/13
James Carroll	1/14
Thomas Desmond	1/14
Timothy Ryan	1/16
Michael Ross	1/19
Maria Sawczuk	1/20
Judith Armstrong	1/21
Jodi Walker	1/30

(And also to those who don't wish to have their birthdays 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>
Judith Armstrong	1966	Harry Albert	2004 (5 YEARS!)
Robert Abel	1979 (30 YEARS!!)	Terrance Blanch	2004 (5 YEARS!)
Richard Hartland	1984 (25 YEARS!!)	Nancy Hillyard	2004 (5 YEARS!)
Howard Layton	1985	Thomas Keane	2004 (5 YEARS!)
George Majors	1980	Francis Murray	2004 (5 YEARS!)
John Carson	2003	James Lee	2006
Kari Goral	2003	Ankush Bansal	2007
David Moak	2003	Barbara Lavelle	2008
Michael Wendeler	2003	Peter Von Glahn	2008

And a warm Delaware Mensa welcome to: James Masotti of Wilmington, Ian McMahon of Newark, and Lauren McMillan of Newark

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

By John Grover

Washington State is the source of this month's wine. For white wines from the West Coast, Washington and Oregon often provide the best values. Please note a degree of negative California bias. That state is a source of good wines but frequently at prodigious prices.

Hogue Cellars' 2006 Fume Blanc is a wonderful example of a good wine at a reasonable price. Fume Blanc is synonymous with Sauvignon Blanc, except that I personally expect a certain complexity and herbaceous quality with this designation. Hogue does not disappoint. This Sauvignon Blanc delivers all the qualities of that variety such as subtle gooseberry and grass, but with layers lemon and herbs that raise this to an excellent wine. We find this wine locally for between \$9 and \$10 a bottle.

Lemon Tarragon Roast Cornish Game Hens

Ingredients: 2 (1 ¼ to 1 ½ lb.) Cornish Game Hens; ½ stick softened butter; 2 tbs chopped shallot; 1 tbs. grated lemon zest; 1 tbs. chopped fresh tarragon; ½ tsp. salt; and, ¼ tsp. black pepper.

Preheat oven to 450 degrees; Rinse hens and pat dry; place skin side up in a 1 inch deep baking pan; stir together butter, shallot, zest, tarragon, ¼ tsp. salt and 1/8 tsp. pepper in a small bowl. Loosen skin from meat all over hens including legs and thighs, being careful not to tear skin. Rub half of butter under skin and remaining half on top. Sprinkle hens with rest of salt and pepper. Roast hens in oven until cooked through and skin is golden brown, 25 to 30 minutes. The Boss served this with a seasoned blend of wild and long grain rice available from Carolina Rice. The drippings make a nice gravy that is definitely "politically incorrect".

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.



in the National AMC elections! To do so you must renew your membership by March 31. Visit us.mensa.org/renew for details.

Delaware Mensa Treasurer's Report (13 June to 12 December 2008)

Balance on Hand 12 June 2008		\$2,322.06
Income:		
Local Group Funding	\$847.57	
Test Revenue	\$150.00	
Lapsed member mailing supplement	\$0.00	
Private Subscription to DelaMensa	\$8.00	
Total "ordinary" income	\$1,005.57	
Extraordinary income		
RG Proceeds (See below)	\$1,608.56	
Total Income:	\$2,614.13	
Total Funds Available		\$4,936.19
Expenses:		
Printing Newsletter	\$315.58	
Mailing Newsletter	\$336.00	
PO Box rental (Scholarship expense)	\$0.00	
Lapsed member mailing	\$0.00	
Mailing Tests (certified)	\$0.00	
Total Expenses		\$651.58
Balance on Hand 12 December 2008		\$4,284.61

(Ed Note: We finally have our group finances on a solid basis, thanks to cost cutting efforts by your EXCOM, and the hard work of the members who put on our two Regional Gatherings (so far.)

We really need more help—more people taking care of little tasks that have to be done—to make future RGs run as well. Please step up and participate the next time we ask for volunteers.)

RG Financial Overview		
Income		
Registrations	\$3,745.00	
Miscellaneous income	\$77.96	
Adjustment	\$5.39	
Total income		\$3,828.35
Expenses		
Common rooms	\$624.48	
Food and beverages	\$1,086.99	
Entertainment	\$150.00	
Miscellaneous	\$358.32	
Total expenses		\$2,219.79
Net income		\$1,608.56

Prepared by Dee Richardson, 30 December 2008

National News

- Mensa Testing Day brought out 1272 candidates to take the admission test in October, resulting in 414 offers of membership in November.
- Enter the AML 50th Anniversary Logo and slogan contest, for a chance at fame and glory. Only original, unpublished work can be considered. If incorporating the AML logo, be sure to follow the rules posted at www.us.mensa.org/logos—don't substitute something else for the globe, and don't use other elements that could be considered part of the globe and table logo. Send your entry in jpg or gif format to 50thAnniversary@us.mensa.org, or on paper to 50th Anniversary Logo and Slogan Contest, c/o American Mensa Ltd., 1229 Corporate Drive West, Arlington TX 76006. Deadline for submissions is 31 March, 2009.
- Vote for your favorite web site to be in American Mensa's Top 50 Web Sites list, to be released in February 2009. See the us.mensa.org website for details.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR!

Dear Keith,

I am writing in reference to your item in the December 2008 issue of DelaMensa about going paperless. Please tell me why anyone should feel guilt about cutting down trees for making paper.

I am proud of the tree farm industry in the United States. In 1941, the American Tree Farm System was established to promote farm stewardship, for example. Also, The American Forest and Paper Association (AF&PA) traces its roots back to 1878. AF&PA is advancing policies that promote a strong and sustainable U.S. forest products industry in the global marketplace. Some of their policy priorities include: Clean Air and Clean Water, Climate, Energy, Forestry and Fiber Supply, Recycling, Sustainability, Tax, and Trade.

The Forestry, Wood, Paper and Pulp industry employs 1942 people in the state of Delaware alone. I encourage anyone who does not know where paper products come from to explore the websites of the above two industry associations. Also, visit tappi.org/paperu/all_about_paper/faq.htm.

Frankly, over half the material used to make paper products is from recycled paper. The rest typically comes from farms that raise fast growing trees meant to be harvested.

Tropical forests are being cut down, but not to make paper. If the plight of those souls who dwell in those tropical areas concerns you, please don't cloud the issue by continuing the trivial, uninformed use of "killing trees to make paper".

Sincerely, Barbara Sikora

Editors response:

Thanks for your comments. I'm sorry if I offended you with my flip and facetious comment about the guilt of killing trees. I was not advocating that people feel guilty, but merely recognizing that some people do.

I am familiar with the tree farm system in the US. In my home state (yes, I'm a transplant to Delaware) production of forest products, lumber, plywood, and paper, is the second largest industry in the state, and the land dedicated to tree production is a resource for wildlife and for recreation.

As I said last month, the interest of Delaware Mensa is in avoiding the cost of printing (\$0.39 for six pages and a staple) and the cost of mailing (\$0.43 for each copy).

I was glad to see your comment that over half of our paper products are now from recycled paper. I encourage all our readers to participate in local recycling programs as much as possible.

[The opinions expressed here are those of their authors only. Delaware Mensa and American Mensa Ltd. have no opinions.]



It's time to renew your Mensa membership.

Renew online at
www.us.mensa.org/renew
or call 888/294-8035 ext.
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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

SECOND THURSDAY Happy Hour/NTN Trivia Night

THIRD WEDNESDAY Happy Hour/NTN Trivia Night

Join Delaware Mensa from 6 to 8 pm, on the First (Dover) and Third (Bear) 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.

**NEW LOCATION—
now on Second Thursdays in Wilmington!**

PLACE: Buffalo Wild Wings, 2062 Limestone Rd, Wilmington (near Kirkwood Hwy). To RSVP, e-mail Maria at legalady@magpage.com or call 302-893-5118.

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 Delaware Mensa LunchBunch will meet from about 11:45 to 1:15 at ED OLIVER HOUSE. Formerly the Terrace at Greenhill, the restaurant is located at ED "Porky" OLIVER Golf Club, 800 N. DuPont Road, Wilmington. 302-571-9041. Meet us there for lunch and stimulating conversation.

There is plenty of parking, and it's not too far from downtown. (**Second Monday of each month**)

For further information, contact Dee Richardson, 302-892-2299, busydeee@comcast.net

TUESDAY, January 20, 2009: DOWNSTATE DOWN - Dining Out With Nerds

We'll see you in January – Downstate DOWN – Dining Out With Nerds. Leah Kinder will pick a different ethnic restaurant each month. This month it is La Fontana, in Dover. Broaden your culinary horizons, share some stories, and have fun with your fellow Mensans.

DATE: January 20, 2009

TIME: 6:00 pm

PLACE: TBD. To RSVP: e-mail Leah at bluepointjive@gmail.com, or call 302-222-2357. (**WE MUST HAVE AN RSVP IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND THIS EVENT!**)

Delaware Mensa Calendar

Grab your personal calendar and write down some events!

Wed, Jan 7	6 to 8 pm, Downstate Happy Hour/ NTN Trivia, at Buffalo Wild Wings, 680 South Bay Rd, Dover. First Wednesday of each month we'll be in Dover. To RSVP, e-mail Leah at bluepointjive@gmail.com .
Wed, Jan 8	6 to 8 pm, Happy Hour/ NTN Trivia Night at Buffalo Wild Wings, 2062 Limestone Rd, Wilmington. Second Thursday of each month . For info or to RSVP, e-mail Maria at legalady@magpage.com or call 302-893-5118.
Sat, Jan 10	1 to 5 pm, Mensa Games Day at Jim Lee's house. Bring a snack or favorite game. 1315 Gilpin Ave, Wilmington. Call Jim at 302-562-5132 to RSVP or for information.
Mon, Jan 12	11:30—? Downtown Lunch Bunch meet at the Ed Oliver House, at the Golf club, 800 N DuPont Rd, Wilmington, for lunch and stimulating conversation. (Second Monday) Info: Dee Richardson at 302-892-2299
Tues, Jan 20	6 to ? pm, Downstate DOWN. Please RSVP to Leah by e-mail at bluepointjive@gmail.com , or call 302-222-2357
Wed, Jan 21	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.

Your event here!!

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Arlington TX 76006-6103**

FIRST CLASS MAIL

This newsletter is sent to members of Delaware Mensa each month (more or less), but is also going out to prospective members who have qualified for membership. If you are one of those prospective members, allow me to add another invitation to you to join Mensa. The organization is both big and small, you can enjoy it at whatever level suits you.

JANUARY 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 New Years Day	2	3
4	5	6	7 Happy Hour/ NTN Trivia Night	8 Happy Hour/ NTN Trivia Night	9	10 Full Moon Games Day
11	12 Lunch Bunch	13	14	15	16	17
18	19 Martin Luther King Day	20 Downstate DOWN	21 Happy Hour/ NTN Trivia Night	22	23	24
25	26 New Moon DelaMensa Deadline	27	28	29	30	31